

Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council
Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee meeting held in the Radcliffe Room,
The Grange, on Monday 09 February 2015
at 7.00pm

Cllr. Rod Brears (Chairman)
 Cllr. Graham Leigh-Browne Cllr. Jim McKechnie (Vice Chairman)
 Cllr. Mrs Melanie McKechnie Cllr. John Thorn (A)
 Cllr. Mrs Pam Thompson Cllr. Dominic Tompkin (A)
 Ex-officio: Cllrs Roger Upton and Mrs Georgia Moore

Also present: Clerk – Jacki Grice, Hall Manager – Lisa Simpson and approx. 30 residents.

Apologies

1. Cllrs John Thorn and Dominic Tompkin

Declarations of Interest

2. None received.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting Held on 19 January 2015

3. It was: **Resolved:** "That the minutes are approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman"

Chairman's Announcements

4. **Resolved:** "The order of business would be amended to enable members of the public to speak early on in the meeting with regard to Radcliffe Train Services and the Environment Agency Environmental Permit Consultation"
5. A Community Litter Pick will take place on 22 March 2015, meet at Rockley Park for 10am, all welcome.

Sarah Turner Route Manager East: East Midlands Trains

6. Sarah has attended the meeting as the Liaison Officer between local communities and East Midlands Trains. The following issues were highlighted:
 - The train services have declined over recent years with only a small percentage of trains now stopping at Radcliffe Station (currently only five trains to Nottingham per day and six trains from Radcliffe to Grantham).
 - Fare to Nottingham is £4.70 compared to the bus services at £5.00, but there are no concessions
 - Current Radcliffe timetable is not in sync with Nottingham /Grantham lines or Grantham/ London.
 - Inadequate services for leisure, business, work or school travel to Nottingham, Netherfield or Grantham.
 - Lack of marketing (no response to offer to put information in Parish Newsletter)
 - Deterioration of station and hardly any signage.
 - Community Plan highlighted a greater demand, busy bus service (part due to the work place parking levy) and congested roads provides evidence of travel needs.
 - A pilot scheme of improved services would be a starting point.
7. Sarah advised that a historical decision to reduce the train times to Skegness and improve the Poacher Line service impacted on the amount of stops at Radcliffe.
 There are 3 timetable consultations per year and she will ensure that the Parish Council is included in future. The next being June 2015 for 2016.
 East Midlands Trains is nearing the end of its franchise with the Department of Transport but are currently working towards a re-franchise beyond October 2015.
 There are no changes in mind for Radcliffe, but the Head of Planning will make changes if a good business case is put forward, evidence of need is required.
 Schedules have to be carefully thought through, if stops are increased at Radcliffe this will have a knock on effect to other timetables. Track origins have to be taken into account.
 There are some managerial changes and new customer service managers have been assigned to assess at the condition of the local stations.

Sarah would feedback the information received so far, in the meantime the Parish Council were asked to put together a preferred timetable with a rationale and evidence of demand to submit with it.

Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Relevant Matters

8. **Resolved:** "To extend the time of the open public session for half hour." Standing Orders were suspended at 7.25pm

Residents also raised the following issues with the train service:

- *Ticket machines not fit for purpose and other inadequate equipment*
- *Business evaluation surveys not carried out on footfall and competition*
- *Small commuter link wanted to connect to the new tram system, ease of access to QMC*
- *Schedules dictated by Department of Transport*
- *The County Council has submitted a request for an hourly stop at every station*
- *Wider promotion would increase demand*

9. The Chairman thanked Sarah for attending and she left the meeting at 7.37pm

Residents raised the following concerns with regard to proposed oil drilling at the Harlequin 3 Well Site.

- *Lack of information in the Environment Agency consultation documents:*
 - *No details on some of the chemicals to be used. (CAS numbers missing)*
 - *No noise surveys carried out with regard to Upper Saxondale and other neighbouring residents.*
 - *Inadequate information on the environmental impact*
- *Insufficient consultation, only 23 houses informed, every property in Radcliffe should have been consulted*
- *There were unanswered questions at the recent public meeting with regard to Health and Safety and Risk Assessments.*
- *The noise from the flares will be significant and is not mentioned*
- *If one well is found viable to pump oil this will be the start of others, so it is not just a case of 2 weeks of drilling*
- *The farmer that owns the site land also owns land that surrounds the Upper Saxondale area, this could lead to more areas being earmarked for exploratory drilling*
- *Things have changed since the original application was approved in 1999, the majority of the Upper Saxondale development did not exist*
- *Impact on the A52 with additional traffic, too close proximity to A52 if health and safety measures failed, This would cause severe disruption if the road had to be closed*
- *There are cases of similar companies renegading on their agreements*

10. **Resolved:** "To continue the public session for an additional 25 minutes to enable residents to continue to speak."

- *The Environment Agency do not monitor effectively, it is a case of 'box ticking' Scandinavia is far more robustly regulated than the UK*
- *Hutton Energy only acquired Newton Energy in November 2014, why so hasty in progressing this application to drill?*
- *10 tonnes of gas per day expected and no information available if there were to be a problem.*
- *Radcliffe will be known as the village with the Oil Rigs*

The Chairman advised that planning permission had already been approved by the Nottinghamshire County Council planning authority who were the consulting body for the application. The item for discussion on the Agenda is for the Mining Waste Extraction Permit resulting from the proposed exploratory drilling of one well. The Environment Agency is the consulting body for this aspect of the development and has extended the deadline to 13 February 2015.

The drill rig would be in operation for a two week period and future extraction is carried out by pump jacks. The Parish Council arranged a public meeting at short notice to enable residents to ask questions to the relevant authorities. Radon is not regulated as it is considered low risk.

It is understood that the Environment Agency has to approve all products for use in the drilling operation. Some products are described as proprietary, as they are bespoke to that company and disclosure would be of a commercial disadvantage.

11. Standing Orders resumed at 8.20pm

Harlequin 3 Well Site, Grantham Road

a) Application for a Waste Mining Permit and Radioactive Substances Regulation Permit from Hutton Energy UK Ltd.

12. All members advised that the concerns of the residents had been noted and would be referred to in the Parish Councils response to the Environmental Permit consultation. It was **Resolved:** for the Chairman of the Council, the Planning and Environment Committee Chairman and the Clerk to draft a response highlighting the strength of feeling from concerned residents and their frustration with regard to unanswered questions.”
The Clerk would email the response to all Committee members for approval prior to submission and also publish on the website.

b) Hutton Energy UK Ltd: Community Advisory Board

13. Hutton Energy would like assistance in setting up a forum for the discussion and sharing of information between themselves and the community. This would consist of approx. 12 people, for example community representatives, parish, borough and county councillors, local police and representatives of the company.
Cllrs Georgia Moore and Pam Thompson offered to represent the council. The Clerk would contact other representatives. It was noted that Upper Saxondale Residents Association does not currently have a Chairman.
Expressions of interest in the Forum should be forwarded to the Clerk.
It was noted that Bingham Town Council is hosting a public meeting on Tuesday evening to discuss the Oil Drilling proposals.

14. 20 residents left the meeting at 8.40pm

Clerk’s Report on Previous Minutes

15. Details on the Environment Agency Consultation on the Hutton Energy Environmental Permit is now published on the front page of the website.
16. The Clerk’s Office continues to search for an interested company to provide Tetra Pack Recycling in the village.

M.21 East Midlands Trains

17. Letters have been sent to Cllr Kay Cutts and Rt Hon Ken Clarke QC MP seeking their support for an improved train service.

M.23 Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy

18. Work shall commence on Part 2 of the Local Plan (Greenbelt Review) after the May elections. The Planning Department has advised that the Parish Council will be kept informed and consulted on the process.
19. Cllr Georgia Moore left the room at 8.45pm for 2 minutes.

Recent Rushcliffe Borough / County Council Decisions

20. These were accepted as circulated as outlined on the attached document.

Planning Applications

21. The applications received were reviewed and decisions taken as outlined on the attached document.

Planning Administration Procedures

22. **a) Meeting Notices on Notice Boards**

Resolved: “The Planning application list to be included with the meeting notice on the village notice boards outside the Post Office and at Upper Saxondale.”

b) To Review Online Comments on RBC Planning Website

23. **Resolved:** “The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Planning and Environment Committee shall review the Planning portal for comments to enable members to be fully informed prior to the consideration of planning applications.”

c) Online Publication of Application Notices Prior to Planning Meetings

24. **Resolved:** “Consultation notices will be published on the website prior to being considered at meetings”.

Energy Monitoring Report

25. No reports.

Neighbourhood Plan

a) To Receive a Report on the Appointment of a Planning Consultant

The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group had invited three consultants to tender and recommended BPUD – Urban Design of Macclesfield for the sum of £6,900 net to produce the draft Neighbourhood Plan. (subject to obtaining a financial grant). The Parish Council Chairman and the Clerk would arrange an initial meeting in the near future with the consultants.

Resolved: “Noted and accepted.”

b) To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting held 29 January 2015

27. **Resolved:** “Noted and accepted.”

Walkers Yard and Health Centre Car Parks

28. The Health Centre Car Park has recently been surveyed and the consultation to the proposed changes (part restricted hours) will commence in March and run for a period of six weeks. The new Order could be in place around July time. The Clerk would invite Dan Swaine at Rushcliffe Borough Council to the Council Offices for further discussions.

Correspondence

a) N.C.C Highways – Water Lane

29. Kendra Hourd, Highways Manager South has advised that the overhanging vegetation on Water Lane should be scheduled to be cut back before the end of March 2015.

b) RBC Consultation on Draft Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document

30. Deferred until the next Planning and Environment Committee meeting to enable Councillors to read and digest the information. The Clerk will publish the document on the website.

c) N.C.C Rushcliffe Borough Council Area – Bingham and Radcliffe on Trent Area School Keep Clear Entrance Markings – Prohibition of Waiting and No Stopping, Monday to Friday 8am – 4.30pm - Restrictions – TRO 8229 – Public Consultation

31. Standing Orders were suspended to enable a resident to speak to the meeting and it was **Resolved** “That the meeting be extended beyond 9pm for a few minutes.”
- *The warden on patrol in the village was approached to address a vehicle that was parking illegally near the school, he responded that it wasn't within his jurisdiction. The Clerk would endeavour to find out more about their allocated areas and remit.*
 - *The Head Teacher of the Infants School was unaware of the proposed plans.*

32. The consultation was noted, there were no comments and the Clerk would publish the information on the website.

Date of Next Meeting

33. Confirmed as Monday 02 March 2015. (7.00pm)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.06 p.m.

Signed: Chairman Date