

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of  
Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council held in The Radcliffe Room, The Grange,  
on Monday 04 February 2019 at 7.00pm

Councillors

Keith Agar	Rodney Brears	Georgia Moore (Vice Chairman)
David Astill	Graham Budworth	Jean Robinson
Penny Astill	Sue Clegg	Josephine Spencer
Joe Bailey (A)	Martin Culshaw	Pam Thompson
Bill Banner	Gillian Dunn	John Thorn
David Barton (Chairman)	Graham Leigh-Browne (A)	Alice Tomlinson

Also present: Mrs Sally Horn (Acting Clerk), Jacque Earp (Admin Assistant) RBC Cllrs Neil Clarke, Cllr Jean Smith, and Cllr Roger Upton, NCC Cllr Kay Cutts and two members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Joe Bailey and Graham Leigh-Browne - Approved. The Chairman also welcomed RBC Cllr Roger Upton, RBC Cllr Neil Clarke, RBC Cllr Jean Smith, NCC Cllr Kay Cutts and members of the public to tonight's meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

None received.

3. Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10 December 2018 for Approval

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

4. Chairman's Announcements

- The Chairman and Cllrs send their best wishes to the Clerk whilst she is absent from work and also thank Sally Horn and Jacque Earp for the extra work load and responsibility they are taking on board.
- There are a number of Q&A sessions taking place in Rushcliffe in preparation for the May elections for people interested in standing as a Parish Councillor. The RBC are not organising a Q&A session in Radcliffe however the PC are organising one themselves. The Clerk will give a power point presentation session on PC roles and the procedures, also contained in an RBC document. Current Cllrs are encouraged to come along to the session which has been brought forward to from Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February to Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30pm in the Grange Hall.
- This year's Annual Parish Meeting is on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2019. There will be examples of the new Local History and Local Wildlife Display Boards in the Grange Hall, with an official opening for one of the Display Boards earlier that day.
- Cllrs may be aware this year is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Village Twinning between Radcliffe on Trent and Bussy' St Georges. A Twinning Party came over to Radcliffe almost two years ago and an invitation from the Mayor in Bussy' St George has been received by the PC Chairman for the commemorations and celebrations in France. With the agreement of the members, the Chairman would like to accept the invitation and will represent the PC. Cllrs were reassured that all travel costs accommodation and incidentals would be personally paid for by the Chairman.

5. Clerk's Report on Previous Minutes

There were no Clerks Reports.

6. Open Session for Members of the Public to Raise Matters of Council Business, Limited to 15 Minutes

Standing Orders were suspended at 7.07pm

- This morning a member of the Trains Working Group had emailed a letter to the Clerk, RBC Cllr Neil Clarke RBC Cllr Roger Upton, and NCC Cllr Kay Cutts regarding the future of Public Transport in Radcliffe. The letter was read out in full to the Committee members and covered the following issues:

- For a number of years, has played a part in a campaign to seek an improved public transport system / train service for Radcliffe.
- Political leaders and campaigners should show their support for the East Midlands Rail Franchise and The Midlands Connect Scheme, to ensure the East Midlands does not fall further behind in terms of transport infrastructure, particularly with the potential of significant number of new houses for Rushcliffe.
- The current road network will inevitably deteriorate if more houses are built as it is currently working at, or over its design capacity.
- Aware of Highways England's plans to upgrade some junctions on the A52 corridor, the air quality is a major issue along the A52, there are bottle necks of traffic on the 3 bridges over the River Trent. Believes NCC is reluctant to undertake major road junction works, to encourage more passengers on public transport.
- The mainline Bus service runs every 10 minutes during the day, reducing in the evenings to every 40 minutes and every 20 minutes on Sundays. The Villager 1 Bus service for Shelford Road runs every hour, despite S.106 subsidies. Asks about the future of the Villager 1 Bus service, as S.106 subsidies only have a short time left and the service fails to cover running costs.
- The current train service is operated by East Midlands Trains and the franchise is due to finish in August 2019, however understands there are discussions to extend this.
- The Trains Working Group were successful in their campaign for an improved Radcliffe Train Service in December 2016 and secured five additional week day services. The latest official passenger figures confirm an increase of 36.7% over the last year. An improved train service would also alleviate the pressure of the call for a fourth river crossing. The community have showed their support and won a national Award under the Station Adoption Scheme.
- Midlands Connect could and should be the catalyst to drive forward and address the many transport issues currently affecting the region. Rail should play an important role in journey time improvements and economic activity increase.
- Feels that the Nottingham to Skegness Train service should play a part in the Midlands Connect Strategic Plan by improving transport links to the East.
- This is an important crossroad in the region's future and economic growth and seeks support and a response from the PC on the issues raised.

The PC Chairman then asked the Chairman of Planning & Environment to make the letter an agenda item for the next Planning & Environment meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> February.

Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.12pm

7. Minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee Meeting held on 07 January 2019 for Acceptance were presented by Cllr Martin Culshaw

Cllr Culshaw summarised the minutes: This is a key time for Radcliffe on Trent and change is on its way. Does not wish to imply any unlawful irregularities, but at the moment the NCC and RBC are not being as helpful as they should be towards Radcliffe. The most important issue is their attitude towards the Radcliffe Neighbourhood Plan, which took a lot of effort to achieve. Because the Local Plan follows on in time from the Neighbourhood Plan, are negative if the Neighbourhood Plan does not comply with the Local Plan and should be prepared for it to be changed. The way the increase in traffic has been considered by the Planning Department is disgraceful. Regulations may be being followed as individual planning applications, however individual traffic assessments are old, not linked together and the PC does not know what the effect will be. It is hoped the RBC and NCC can get together and make sure Radcliffe is treated appropriately with the developments to follow.

Resolved: "That the minutes are accepted and referred back to committee."

8. Minutes of the Amenities Committee (Inc. G. Hall) Meeting held on 21 January 2019 for Acceptance were presented by Cllr John Thorn

Resolved: "That the minutes are accepted and referred back to committee"

9. To Consider Continuation of Revised Committee Meetings Format.

A trial has been in operation for three months for a change in the Committee Format and Meetings Schedule. It is now time to decide whether to continue and accept the trial results, whether to revert to the previous system, or to decide on any variation of the two. The Chairman then proposed to continue the trial and make it permanent, with the schedule of meetings and merger of Amenities and Grange Hall. Cllr Clegg was concerned that The Grange and Grange Hall was getting a little bit 'swallowed up' in the new system and wished to look at new ways to represent the two, particularly regarding Finance as they are split into two meetings. It was suggested a Working Party may be needed with a different way of reporting back, especially for the Events Group. As this is still a trial period, it was requested that arrangements for The Grange and Grange Hall be looked at in another three months' time, although the current format was accepted more time is required for further clarification regarding the division of the two committees. The Chairman suggested the new merged committee should be named Amenities, and to also amend standing orders to incorporate the change of committees and Chairman's. It was noted decisions should be made by the current PC based on their four years' experience. After further discussion, It was Resolved: "That the PC defer the decision to adopt the new meeting schedule system, the splitting of Grange Hall and for the new merged committee to be named The Amenities Committee, amendments to Standing Orders and to investigate how the split of Grange Hall into the two committees is working to the next Full Council meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019, and also for this issue to be listed on the agenda at the next Amenities meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019". In the meantime Cllr Culshaw volunteered to work on the amendments to Standing Orders.

10. Skatepark Update

Problems had previously arose regarding the WREN funding for the new Skatepark. The main condition for the £35,000 funding contribution from WREN was that it should be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> May, otherwise it would be withdrawn. The PC became aware that potential tenderers could not meet that time deadline. There are only four companies in the Country that can carry out this type of work, therefore this problem became a crisis and the Skatepark project could not continue. Despite the PC, RCAN, and RBC Officers communicating with WREN, they said they had no flexibility whatsoever and would not give an extension of the deadline. The PC spoke to RBC Officers, who were very supportive, helpful and concerned that the 'Flagship' project for Rushcliffe and Radcliffe was collapsing. RBC then encouraged the PC to apply for an additional grant of £25,000. It was noted that the maximum amount that RBC could grant fund the project was £150,000, and that £125,000 had already been donated. It was also noted that RBC could only fund a maximum of 50% of the project. The PC therefore submitted an application for another £25,000 last week and are awaiting a response. In summary the loss of £35,000 from Wren and additional RBC funding of £25,000 leaves a gap of £10,000. The Skatepark Committee has fundraised £1,000 towards this, which now leaves a shortfall of £9,000. Cllrs will address this in the next Agenda item (11). If the shortfall is not met by the PC, the project will be in jeopardy and there will be no new Skatepark for Radcliffe. Overall the PC will be contributing less than 10% of the £300,000 required for this new facility. It was also noted a funding application can be made to WREN again in August, and although not guaranteed, if successful reimbursement can be made back to the PC. The PC application submitted to the RBC for an additional £25,000 looks positive and if all goes to plan sometime this summer Radcliffe will have a new top class Skatepark.

11. To Approve the Recommendation from the Finance and General Purposes Committee to Approve the 2019/20 Detailed Budget (noting Nil Increase in Precept)

As discussed in agenda item (10) the PC will contribute £9,000 in addition to the £20,000 already donated towards the new Skatepark and the deadline date to submit the Precept figures 2019/20 to RBC is 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

Resolved: "The PC approved the Nil Increase in Precept 2019/20, on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and ratified the Detailed Budget at tonight's meeting, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and approved a contribution of £9,000 from next year's contingency budget to meet the funding shortfall for the new Skatepark. Any underspend at the end of this Financial Year will be transferred into Free Reserves which will be available for contingency funding, if necessary for next year".

12. To note Civic Awards Nominations Required by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Potential need for a meeting to agree Nominees on 18<sup>th</sup> March before Planning.

Noted and discussed. There are so many individuals and groups that do fantastic work in the village and many of them have not been recognised in the past by Civic Awards. Cllrs are encouraged to ask Colleagues and friends to submit nominations to the PC. A meeting to agree nominees has been arranged for 6.30pm on the 18<sup>th</sup> March, prior to the Planning & Environment meeting at 7pm.

### 13. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

### 14. Councillors and Outside Organisations Reports

- Cllr Dunn and Cllr Moore attended a meeting of the 1<sup>st</sup> Radcliffe on Trent Scout Group last week and gave a presentation on 'Single Use Plastic'. It was a fun session and very well received by the Scouts. Hopefully the Scouts will now move towards a new environmental award badge.
- Cllr Budworth confirmed that a new defibrillator had been installed at Park Homes in Radcliffe. There is a signpost to the defibrillator for walkers and residents and Cllr Budworth would like the people involved at the Football Club to know this facility is available.
- Cllr Penny Astill referred to this year's Civic Award nominations and asked for confirmation of any previous nominations for a particular village resident. The Office will now look into this request.
- Cllr Spencer confirmed solicitors for ROTSA are in the process of renegotiating the Bingham Road Playing Fields lease.

### 15. Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Report from NCC Cllr Kay Cutts:

- Is not quite sure what the NCC Cllrs are expected to do regarding the Planning Applications in the village. The 106 money arising from the planning applications is then spent on the village. The Shelford Road bus service is currently subsidised by the NCC, but stopped subsidising the bus service up to Saxondale as there was no one using it. There is not enough passenger use for the Shelford Road Bus service, so it cannot continue which is disappointing as feels more people could use it. The Train service is very useful, but does not accept bus passes.
- Invested a lot of money to resurface the roads in Radcliffe. For example Northfield Avenue and Oakfield Lane.
- Will be attending a meeting on Friday at the Civic Office at Leicester City Council regarding Midland Connect and will take along letter re: agenda item 6. from the member of the Trains Working Group.
- The Defence and National Rehabilitation Centre at Stamford Hall is now going to have a civilian part to it via the NHS/QMC Trust. The rehabilitation that takes place at Stamford Hall will now be extended to civilians.
- The HS2 line is coming to Toton. For the future the Government has decided it would be a good idea to have a Development Corporation that covers HS2, East Midlands Airport, and Fire Stations. Although HS2 is due to arrive 2035, plans are in place now for the Nottinghamshire infrastructure. The Development Corporation members will include Cllrs and local people
- There has been a session for the NCC on 'Modern Slavery' 'In Plain Sight.' Examples of this are people coming to the UK working at car washes and nail bars who are enslaved, but may not understand that they are. Children can become modern slaves by being forced into gangs and then forced to carry drugs, which is very worrying. People should be made aware of that the children are now going out to Market Towns and not just big Cities.
- Went out in a Gritting Lorry and was interesting how the gritting was carried out. It is very bespoke and is based on the width of the road and the amount spread. Started out in West Bridgford, went to Gamston, then out towards Bingham, East Bridgford, Shelford Tops and back through Radcliffe.
- Opened another refurbished library at Edwinstowe. There is a camaraderie there that addresses loneliness, which is one of the hardest things to do.
- There is the budget coming up by the end of the month. The Council Tax will rise and an extra 1% of that will be for Adult Social Care. There is continuous budgeting being carried out throughout the year.
- There is going to be a shortage of senior school places in West Bridgford. West Bridgford School and Rushcliffe School have expanded their numbers so there is a likelihood there will be a new school in the future.
- The S.106 money received from Planning goes on School places, Health, Leisure and Transport, subsidising the bus services. All this money is paid back into the community.

Cllr Spencer confirmed she had attended the last Planning meeting and was astounded there will be 3 large housing developments all taken as independent Planning Applications. Asks the NCC to come together with the PC and RBC with the same observations regarding transport, access and schools. Cllr Cutts confirmed there would be another mini roundabout at the top of Shelford Road and that people want to keep Radcliffe as

a village and not have traffic lights. NCC do not control who submits planning applications, the RBC consider them, and all S.106 money received is spent in the area where it is required.

Cllr Agar referred to the Hopper bus service at Upper Saxondale and confirmed it wasn't very well used. It comes as no surprise that the service is being looked at. However there is an issue as Upper Saxondale is served by 2 bus stops, one at Henson Lane and the other at the bottom of Saxondale Drive, neither of which are wheelchair accessible. Is aware of 2 residents who are wheelchair bound but can't get anywhere near the bus stops with their wheel chairs. Cllr Cutts confirmed this issue will be dealt with.

Cllr Thorn asked Cllr Cutts for clarification if there would be a new secondary school built in Rushcliffe. Cllr Cutts confirmed there was a possibility of a new school in the future. The problem is that there are more children in West Bridgford without school places. If West Bridgford children do not get a secondary school place this year they will be sent to other schools in the Rushcliffe area.

Cllr Thompson noted the NCC has stopped funding the Community Rail Partnership, and Lincolnshire CC are continuing Funding it.

Report from RBC Cllr Jean Smith:

- Has applied for £500 to donate towards the Radcliffe Skatepark and is hopeful that the application will be successful.

Report from RBC Cllr Roger Upton:

- The Local Plan Part 2 was still awaiting a decision from the Planning Inspector this afternoon. It is getting very close to in time to local elections, if it comes through in the next 2 weeks. Does not think the LPP2 will be adopted until after the May elections, which is regrettable.
- Spent 3 years working on the Radcliffe Neighbourhood Plan. There are 300 Neighbourhood Plans in the UK that have been adopted, many of those were before any Local Plans were adopted. The Neighbourhood Plan has not been dismissed and was never going to be used 100%. It was a tool the Local Planners would use when assessing a Planning Application along with the Local Plan to look at as a whole. In his opinion the Radcliffe Neighbourhood Plan is still there and working. Is not negative or dismissive of it and thinks it has a lot of merit and value when the Local Plan Part 2 is adopted.
- Monitors the CIL and Community Infrastructure Levy, progressing and should be concluded in March 2019. Then goes to Full Council, but believes like the local Plan this will be done after the May Local Election.
- Skreveton have a large Travellers Encampment there. The RBC appealed and lost and so the Travellers have been granted permission to stay. This is mentioned as the Travellers near to the RSPCA have just applied for the removal of certain conditions for this site.

Report from RBC Cllr Neil Clarke:

- Shares the frustrations regarding the Planning Applications that PC Cllrs have. Has had several lengthy and robust conversations with Planning Officers, who are confirming to National Planning Regulations. Two applications next door to each other that have to be treated separately does not make sense. Will continue to speak up on all large scale Planning Applications being dealt with.
- Refers to potential Commercial Donors for the new Skatepark that were not progressed as understood there was enough donations. Will see if these ambitions can be resurrected and progressed via the Chairman after tonight's meeting.

16. Date of Next Full Council Meeting – 01 April 2019

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed: Chairman.....Date.....