



**Minutes of Meeting of Rippingale Parish Council,  
Held 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2012 at Rippingale Village Hall.**

**Present:** Cllrs M. Hallas (Chairman), S. Stewart, J. Latham, B Cook, B. Flatters, M. Exton. C. Cllr M. Hill.

**In Attendance:** Mr. Mrs. K. Cotton, Mr. D. Diess, Mr. L. Parncutt, Mr. J. Warman, Mr. T. Bladon, Miss A. Potts.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

PF1 Litter Bin, outside former school: Mr. Bladon advised this has been moved and requested that a “spare” bin on the Village Green be transferred as replacement.

PF2 “Wendover Close” sign: Clerk to request further sign from SKDC.

PF3: Station Street/B1177 Drainage Problem: History of the recent works was reported to C. Cllr Hill to look into this on behalf of the Parish Council.

PF4: D. Cllr Wren: No communication received regarding matter of Station Street wall.

There being no further business, the Chairman opened the meeting of the Parish Council at 7.35p.m.

**1. CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS.**

1.1 The Chairman welcomed all Councillors and introduced Miss Annabelle Potts who is interested in helping to form a Youth Council in support of the Parish Council. Annabelle is working with the Jubilee Committee and it is hoped that the Jubilee events event will bring more involvement with the young people of the village.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & REASONS GIVEN**

2.1 Apologies for absence was received and accepted from Cllr P. King.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST.**

M. Hallas	Village Design Committee, Surgery Action Group
S. Stewart	Village Hall Management Committee
J. Latham	Surgery Action Group
B. Cook	Village Hall Management Committee, Allotment Holder
B. Flatters	Allotment Holder.

**4. NOTES OF MEETING 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2012.**

Cllr S. Stewart proposed and Cllr J. Latham seconded the proposal that the Notes be approved as Minutes.

**5. CLERK’S REPORT – Previously Circulated.**

**1. SLCC CONFERENCE ATTENDED** - Useful and productive meeting.

a) Council Insurers (Came & Co) confirmed Jubilee Insurance cover. Insurance renewal review held with Cllr B. Cook who recommends continuing with this insurer who provides specific cover at reasonable price – discounted three year contract due for renewal June 2012.

b) Books purchased: “500 Tips for Communicating with the Public” – Chairman for perusal & “The Local Council Clerk’s Guide”.

c) “Localism” – Case studies (Lincolnshire) of involving community in Council-led projects.

d) “General Power of Competence” “Quality Parish Council” status no longer favoured, further information to follow.

e) “Taking over Assets and Services! – roles and responsibilities. Relevant in that County & District Authorities are wishing to transfer services to Parish Council.

**2. TRUSTEESHIP, PLAYING FIELD** Nothing further to report.

**3. LAND ADJACENT Nos 1,3,5,7 & 9 PINFOLD** LCC (Footpaths) will contribute to cost of grass cutting, irrespective of ownership. Responsibility for cutting hedge (eastern boundary) belongs to Riparian Owner (i.e. RPC). Solicitors asked to return Deeds.

**4. YOUTH REPRESENTATION ON PARISH COUNCIL** Chairman & Clerk have met with Annabelle Potts who is attending tonight’s meeting as an observer.

**5. STATION STREET WALL** - Still outstanding.

### 5.1 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.

Clerk to proceed with arrangements as in previous years. Meeting to be advertised in Newsletter/website, refreshments to be arranged. Jubilee Committee to be asked to report to formally report to the meeting.

### 6 FINANCIAL MATTERS – Copies of Budget and Bank Reconciliation previously distributed.

6.1 Bills for Payment: Payments below relate to years 2011/12 and 2012/3.

C. Boyfield (Feb)	£927.49	SLCC Training	£ 36.00
Branch Bros	£189.11	A. Flatters/Branch Bros	£ 37.84
S.M. Scholes (Mar)	£413.73	HMRC M12	£ 64.60
S.M. Scholes	£105.60	SLCC Books	£ 23.95
M. Hallas HCS (Dec)	£ 2.00	D. Diess HCS	£ 29.80
M. Hallas HCS (Mar)	£ 13.80	D. Harris HCS	£ 14.40
b. Osborne HCS	£ 19.20	S. Picton HCS	£ 16.80
J. Warman HCS	£ 13.80	J. Wiseman HCS	£ 21.60
F. Wyer HCS	£ 27.00	APRIL 2012 S.M. Scholes	£436.09
HMRC M1	£ 47.02	Came Insurance	£136.18
Env. Agency	£ 10.11	LALC Subscription	£237.50

First Precept instalment 2012/13, £7,875 has been received.

Provisional 2011/12 figures show receipts £21,225, payments £20,227. These figures include the Jubilee funds raised to date, £1,403.

6.1 Accounting Software: The Chairman and Clerk have seen a demonstration (RBS Software) of system designed for Parish/Town Councils and recommend that this is purchased at cost of £295.00. Costs to set up with Council's data have been negotiated at £35.00 p.h. and it is recommended that the maintenance/update service £100 p.a. be used in the first year and then reviewed. Purchase of the system was proposed (B. Flatters) and seconded (B. Cook) and agreed unanimously. C. Cllr Hill recommended that ownership of the software Licence be confirmed as belonging to the Parish Council.

### 6.2 End of Financial Year, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2012.

The Clerk is finalising accounts before submission to the Internal Auditor. Notice of Audit has been published and to comply with Audit deadlines, Council will be asked to approve the accounts at the meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June.

### 7. PLANNING

7.1 (0174) Alterations to Listed Building, 110 Station Street – consent 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2012.

7.2 (510508/327546 – LCC) Kiosks to house electrical equipment, Sewage Treatment Works, Main Road, Dunsby. Nothing to report.

7.3 Neighbourhood Planning:

C. Cllr Hill confirmed that SKDC will not supply financial assistance to Parishes setting up a neighbourhood plan, which must be in accordance with its District Plan. Rippingale Village Design Committee had been informed by SKDC that its Statement would no longer be relevant as Supplementary Planning Guidance.

C. Cllr Hill agreed to discuss this with the District Council (D. Wren). SKDC response will be awaited before any publicity on this matter is generated.

### 8. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – List previously circulated as below, amended with Council decisions.

1. (Community Lincs) Invitation re Best Kept Village Competition 2012 – Rippingale will not enter.

2. (LCC Directorate of Resources & Community Safety) Electronic purchasing system as of March 2012 (already used)

3. (Charity Commission) Winter Newsletter <http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Aboutus/AbouttheCommission/newslst.aspx>

4. (SKDC Standards Committee) Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> March cancelled.

5. (Grantham Area Action Plan & Site Allocation & Policies DPD Examination in Public) Notice of 3<sup>rd</sup> Exploratory Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> April.
6. (The Clerk , March 2012) – “Neighbourhood Planning” article forwarded to Chairman, to be copied all Councillors.
7. (LCC Environmental Services) Hedge & Small Woodland Grants – Newsletter item.
8. (LCC e-mail) Good Citizen Award promotion – details published in Newsletter (April)
9. (More Digital Marketing Consultancy e-mail) – Approach for website advertising. Liased with J. Warman, n.f.a.
10. (Community Lincs e-mail) Newsletter, relevant items published in Newsletter (April)
11. (LCC Highways West e-mail) Future Highway Works Update – checked, not relevant.
12. (J. Warman, pp Rippingale Village website) Transfer registration of website name to Clerk. D. Sankey contacted.
- 13 (Local Councils Review) Spring 2012.
14. (SKDC Customer Services e-mail) Changes to Garden Waste Collection Scheme – now £25 p.a. Newsletter item done (April).
15. (Plantscape) Planting schemes c.d.
16. (LCC) Household Waste Recycling Site Opening Times – leaflet & poster. Newsletter item done (May)  
Councillors have received complaints regarding the changes and short notice given. C. Cllr Hill described the county-wide changes the service, which will be reviewed in due course.
17. (Community Lincs e-mail) Oil Purchasing Scheme – referred to J. Warman who has set up website links.
18. (Tracey Basett, e-mail) Enquiry regarding ancestors – J. Latham has followed up.
19. (Clerks & Councils Direct) Journal March 2012 “Planning Principles and the Localism Act” copied to Chairman.
20. (NALC) Conference Details “People in Action”
21. (Community Lincs.) Digital Photograph Competition – Newsletter item (May)

#### 9 Receive Reports from Council REPRESENTATIVES:

##### 9.1 Grass Cutting, Village Maintenance Matters

9.1.1 Grass cutting - nothing to report.

9.1.2 Footpath File Review : Cllr Exton is still studying in line with Footpaths Officer meeting, it may be appropriate to take over cutting of additional footpaths under the new LCC P3 Partnership scheme.

##### 9.2 Playing Field:

9.2.1 Tennis Court – Fencing has been intentionally cut to give access. It was agreed that the court will now be left open, restrictions as to appropriate use of the court should remain.

9.2.2 Letter D. Pentecost – Clerk to reply confirming details of removal of storage unit.

9.2.3 Letter S. Flatters re Adult Football Team use of field.

Cllr B. Flatters has met informally to get more information on the suggestion to hire the field for Football matches and training. Implications of the scheme and requirements have been discussed in general terms and further information is required before proceeding. Cllr Flatters will liaise informally at this time.

9.3 Outstanding Inspections: B. Cook (electrical) and M. Exton (play equipment) will review.

##### 9.3 Outstanding & Reported Maintenance Matters:

9.3.1 Cllr Cook advised that the Station Street flooding repairs has not been acknowledged by the County Council. C. Cllr Hill’s assistance in this matter would be appreciated. Other maintenance matters are in hand.

9.3.2. Footpath, East Street – pavement problems have been resolved. Hedge rear of 17 East Street has been inspected.

9.4 Village IT Facility: Of the 50 Surveys completed, 33% saying would use IT facilities, 50% responding were age 60+. Community Lincs is reviewing results with view to obtaining grant aid.

##### 9.5 Doctor’s Surgery – Cllr M. Hallas

The PCT have again confirmed support of the surgery and having advertised the Surgery contract, hope to make a decision regarding the future operator by 1<sup>st</sup> July. Drainage investigation has been carried out by Anglian Water, without apparent improvement to problem of foul smell.

9.6 Allotments. Nothing to report.

## 9.7 War Memorial – Cllr J. Latham report previously circulated.

“...This application for Faculties covers work we wish to carry out inside and outside St Andrew’s Church in Rippingale as follows:

1. Cleaning of and repairs to weather damage to the War Memorial in the Church Graveyard
2. Installation of the Welsh slate tablet – a copy of the names of the dead and commemorative script, created when repairs were last carried out in 2005 – on the south internal wall of the Church, next to the South door, (not the Porch door) together with a single book shelf to contain detailed records of all the dead, mounts to secure a British Legion flag and the annual poppy wreath. Work would also include gilding of the inscriptions on the tablet to enable those researching family histories to easily read the names and match them to the information in a special commemorative book on a shelf below the tablet mounting.
3. Re-installation of the stone tablet to its casement mounting on the eastern external wall of the Church porch.

*1. The War Memorial – Statement of Need & Significance* ... In 1920 Rippingale erected a Memorial in the graveyard of St Andrew’s Church to those who fought and died in WW1, recognising their sacrifice. Other names were added later to record and remember deaths in other wars – particularly WW2. 80 years on, it became obvious that the materials used – Clipsham limestone – were suffering weather damage and Rippingale first applied for a faculty for repairs in 2000, then again in 2005.

There is quite serious damage to the Memorial base, caused by algae and weather – snow and rainwater melting, being absorbed by the algae and top surfaces of the limestone, re-freezing and the resulting expansion splitting off layers of the stone. (see photos) Previously we had sought advice from you on the basis of installing a “veneer” of stone over the top surface of the pedestal in an attempt to slow down future damage but after further consultation and discussion we have returned to the concept of simply replacing the worst-damaged stonework with the same materials as approved previously, together with a continuing programme of prevention of algal growth.

*Schedule of Works* After consultation with three specialist companies, we are now proposing the following repairs:

- Using a recommended biocide (Bionatura), leaving for three days before cleaning the Memorial with the DOFF system and a “cherry-picker” for the highest level – moss is growing on the sloping carved top of the column - and the column itself. The area would be secured with Heras fencing.
- Taking templates of the existing stones and removing those most badly damaged – at the SE and NE corners (see photos) – the replacements, of exactly the same specification Clipsham limestone as before, bedded in lime mortar.
- Providing biscuit mortar samples for approval and carrying out mortar repairs as required to the masonry flats.
- Applying further application of biocide and leaving the site clean and tidy
- Providing a report with photographs and recommendations for future maintenance.

*2. The Slate Tablet - Statements of Need and Significance* Part of the 2005 repair programme was the commissioning, supply and installation of a Welsh Slate Tablet carrying the inscription and names from the War Memorial, because continuing damage to the Memorial might make the original stone carving illegible. The Tablet was installed on a low plinth on the grass surrounding the Memorial base pedestal but it became clear this would expose it to potential vandalism and damage, so as a temporary measure it was taken inside the Church (see photos). We believe it should be properly mounted. Made of black slate, it is difficult to read the inscription and names, which we believe should be gilded. There is increasing interest in family history research and we think there will be public interest in the tablet being clearly visible.

... (Rippingale Parish Council) cannot afford to pay for the repairs and connected projects.... As part of this project, I became involved with a Sunday Telegraph campaign to persuade the Heritage Lottery Fund to fund something worthwhile – specifically repairs to War Memorials all round the country. ...This campaign was successful ... and HLF published its criteria for applications for War Memorial repairs funding. These said that any application below £3k should be made to the War Memorials Trust and anything over £3,000 should go to the HLF who may fund the total cost. ...Evidence of community involvement – particularly young people – in any work proposed, particularly work which might revive interest in those who died for their country (would be taken into consideration in awarding grants).

I had already researched three of the Memorial names and have now recovered photos and memorabilia for seven of the ten names. I am negotiating with Bourne Academy and Bourne Grammar School with the aim of them researching more material and creating a book, a physical exhibition and a website dedicated to the men who died. The book would be on permanent display, with the slate tablet mounting, together with the British Legion flag and poppy wreath. The exhibition would be set up several times a year in the village on appropriate occasions, but at least each November in the Church, in the space in front of the pews and table (see photos) and the website would be accessible permanently.

*Schedule of Works* The tablet is 39 mm thick, 680 mm wide and 820 mm high. We suggest that it is mounted beside the south door on the south wall of the church, in front of the existing pews (see photo). From the edge of the doorway to the front of the pews is 1100 mm wide and from a level at the top of the pew to the lower level of the door curtain rail is 1300 mm, so there’s plenty of room to centre the tablet in that space, or even more likely from the edge of the curtains to the front of the pews. This would enable people to walk up to the tablet to view it at eye level, to then slide the commemorative book from its horizontal mount beneath the tablet fixings. There would also be space for the British legion flag to stand alongside, for the annual poppy wreath to hang beneath and floor space in front of the pews for the annual temporary exhibition.

- We suggest that the tablet is supported on cramps set into chased sockets in the wall on its underside edge, then tying its top edge back to the wall with a similar arrangement. The materials would be marine grade stainless steel anchored into the wall with Hilti epoxy resin. The book shelf would be secured to the fixings either made of wood or stainless steel. A hook would support the flag and another could mount the wreath.

- One of the bidders is querying the presence of wall paintings behind the plaster on the wall – I think this is a misunderstanding – to my knowledge there are no such paintings
- The method would be to provide protection of the area and bespoke fixings recessed below the plaster surface leaving the tablet on the surface.
- Colouring the lettering in oil-based paint followed by an application of oil gilding in 23 ¾ carat gold leaf.
- Using a small tower scaffold to mount the tablet, making good round the tablet if required with lime mortar and leaving the site clean and tidy.

3. *Re-installation of the stone tablet – Statements of Need and Significance* This tablet was mounted inside a stone casement on the external east wall of the main entry porch. This year it was found on the ground – still in one piece – its mounting mortar having failed. I have discussed its re-installation with all companies bidding for the repair work - using limestone mortar – or indeed any material you deem suitable and effective – as part of the main project. NOT putting a price on this relatively minor job would avoid potential complications with an application for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund – since it would not realistically part of the War Memorial work. All three bidders have agreed to do what's necessary at minimal charge and this item will not appear on the HLF application."

9.7.1 Cllr Latham proposed, and Cllr M. Exton seconded the proposal that the Parish Council agrees the repair work as detailed above are necessary and that representation, in the first instance, be made to Lincoln Diocese for permission to proceed with the repairs be made. This was agreed unanimously.

### 9.8 Jubilee Celebrations: Report (L. Parncutt, April 2012) distributed.

"Generally, we are busy nourishing our plans to encourage their development and maturity into tangible and enjoyable events. Our priorities are very much focused on the fine tuning and the avoidance of panic.

We are now drumming up support and seeking out whatever help and volunteers may be available and, with this in mind, I have listed a few diary dates/reminders for forthcoming events leading up to the big weekend .....

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>   | - Quiz at Village Hall. This month's featured decade is the 80s; already!                                   |
| <b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April</b> | - 'Rippingale's Got Talent' competition at Village Hall. For the teenage participants within our community. |
| <b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>      | - Bunting 'putting up' day. Starting from the village green   |
| <b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>     | - Walking 'Treasure Hunt thru' village. Family based entries with BBQ afterwards at the Manor House         |
| <b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May</b>     | - Quiz at Village Hall. (the 90s)   |
| <b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>     | - Ceilidh at Village Hall. Tickets now on sale  |

I should mention that Fund Raising has been particularly successfully with monies in exceeding monies out. Current projections are indicating a surplus balance in excess of £1,000. We do still have to take account of the preparation and distribution of a 'tabloid' style souvenir programme scheduled for early to middle May but, on this, we are attempting to achieve 'break even' with a bit or sponsorship/advertising revenue covering the production costs."

### 9.8.1 BEACON LIGHTING – Cllr M. Exton.

Safety inspection to be carried out, intention to light beacon has been Registered. An evening walk, followed by buffet at The Bull is proposed prior to lighting. Availability of funds to be referred to the Jubilee committee.

## 10 Receive Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies – M. Hill, L.C.C.

10.1.1 Broadband: The Superfast Connection bid has been successful, bringing high speed facility to 90% Lincolnshire, work beginning late 2013. He encouraged all to register interest via LCC website.

10.1.2 Health Services: New arrangements will result in L CC taking responsibility for Social Healthcare services, and GP Clusters managing Medical Care. The PCT will be terminate in 2013.

10.1.3 Council Tax: In reply to a query from Cllr Exton, C. Cllr Hill confirmed that there has been no County Council Tax increase. Charges for e.g. waste collection have been set by the District Council.

## 11. Matters of an Urgent Nature.

11.1 Portakabin: Cllr Stewart advised that two new toilets are required, total cost £100.

12. Date of Next Meeting **THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2012**

**7.00p.m. ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING**

**7.30p.m. PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55p.m.

POST MEETING PUBLIC FORUM: -

PMPF1. Millennium Notice Board, Village Green.

Clerk will arrange for cleaning and refurbishing/varnishing at no cost.

PMPF2. Grass Cutting.

Mr. Bladon suggested grass cutting frequency be reduced. Cllr Exton advised that grass cutting is under continuing review and frequency of cutting is believed to be appropriate.

PMPF3. Litter A15 – Continuing problem, Clerk to speak C. Cllr Hill.

PMPF4. St George's Day dinner 21<sup>st</sup> April - reminder.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Sheila Scholes,

Clerk to Ripplingale Parish Council,

17<sup>th</sup> April, 2012.

**Meeting Dates 2012**

**28<sup>th</sup> June**

**9<sup>th</sup> August**

**20<sup>th</sup> September**

**8<sup>th</sup> November**

**20<sup>th</sup> December**

**Open Office**

**11<sup>th</sup> May**

**22<sup>nd</sup> June**

**3<sup>rd</sup> August**

**14<sup>th</sup> September**

**26<sup>th</sup> October**

**7<sup>th</sup> December**