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Rutland County Council

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Notes of a Meeting of the **PARISH COUNCIL FORUM** held on **Monday 27 July 2015 at 7.00pm** in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham

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Mr Kenneth Bool – Chairman of the Council (in the Chair)

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SPEAKERS:	Mr Mark Lorán	Senior Environmental Services Manager, Rutland County Council
	Mrs Gill Coleman	Barrowden Community Shop
	Mrs Pat o'Keefe	Barrowden Community Shop
	Mrs Sheila Saunders	Barrowden Community Shop
CLERK TO THE FORUM:	Miss Marcelle Gamston	Corporate Support Officer
APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:	Councillor Edward Baines	Rutland County Council
	Dr Martin Barker	Tinwell Parish Meeting
	Mr David Casewell	Uppingham Town Council
	Mrs Rita Kelly	Tinwell Parish Meeting
	Mr Derek Palmer	Exton Parish Council
	Mr Christopher Renner	Normanton Parish Meeting
	Mr Ron Simpson	Uppingham Town Council
	Mrs Carolyn Walsh	South Luffenham Parish Council

Mrs Musie informed the meeting that Mr Tony Slipper (Chair, Tixover Parish Meeting) had passed away.

There were 30 County and Parish representatives attending the meeting. A list of representatives who signed the attendance sheet is attached.

1) WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

- The Chairman welcomed all parish representatives to the Parish Council Forum.

2) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Miss Gamston read the apologies.

3) NOTES OF LAST MEETING

The Notes of the Parish Council Forum held on 30 March 2015 were confirmed by parish representatives and signed by the Chairman.

4) **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

There were no matters arising from the notes of the last meeting.

5) **“TALKBACK”**

No discussion took place under this item.

6) **TREES, BROOKS AND THE LAW** – Mark Loran, Senior Environmental Services Manager, Rutland County Council

Mr Loran gave a presentation on environment management and trees; copies of which were available. Copies to be circulated with minutes.

Key areas highlighted included:

- Environmental maintenance included street cleansing, dead animals (that could cause an accident), fly-tip clearances, litter bins and litter picking, including RCC car parks
- Grounds maintenance, undertaken by a contractor on behalf of RCC, included closed churchyards, highway verges, Oakham Cemetery, public open spaces, in some cases including play areas, grass cutting (primary activity), shrub bed maintenance, watering, weed control and public hedge maintenance. Enforcement action where a private hedge needs attention (for example, overhanging at a junction) is managed by the Highways Department.
- Contractors undertake all such activities on various schedules during the annual growing season from March to October.
- Trees are maintained by the Highways Department.
- Limitations: public land or RCC land (owned as an authority).
- Exclusions: parishes in control of urban verges (tree management still with Highways Department), private land (responsible for enforcement, for example, fly tipping on private land) and RSL land, predominately Spire Homes, managed themselves.
- Forestry Officer at RCC – Stuart Kidd (Highways Department).
- Riparian ownership of watercourses. An example of Grampian Way & Lonsdale Way was explained. This includes an area, on the Lonsdale Way side, of Riparian ownership which means it is the responsibility of adjacent private landowners (Residents). On the Grampian Way side this is under Spire Homes Ownership, including the footpath. The meeting was also informed that Councillor Begy held the Councillor Position on the Spire Homes Board.
- That RCC was a Lead Local Flooding Authority. As such, RCC has a duty to clear watercourses where there is believed to be a potential for localised flooding. Parishes could highlight any concerns to the Public Protection Team.
- A1 – Stamford to Grantham: Litter control in laybys and on verges was the responsibility of RCC; all verges including trees and shrubs were the responsibility of Highways England. Litter control in laybys and on verges had been difficult in the past due to Highways England not maintaining the trees and shrubs as should. Litter control on the central reservation is currently being queried as there is some debate as to where the responsibility lies. RCC is in contact with Cory and Highways England with a view to resolving this issue.
- That Ground Control and Cory had in place a litter picking regime for other roads.
- The future: New Grounds Maintenance Contract – Autumn 2016, clearer specification, simpler classifications of land use, improved mapping, improved customer engagement, required ‘Standards’ that all understand.
- Tree surveys and policy being worked on by Highways Department.

The following points were noted:

- That there were inherent problems in the current contract.
- That where invasive species on private land were considered to have a detrimental impact on a community or public open space, local authorities had the power, under Anti-Social Behaviour legislation, to contact private landowners and enforce remedial action.
- That Giant Hogweed was usually mitigated by mowing as it seeds every two years. Parishes were requested to make RCC aware of any issues with Giant Hogweed and Ragwort.
- The issue of Ragwort was being dealt with on a priority basis, where highest risk. The area on Oakham Bypass by the bridge was being dealt with. Mark Loran was due to meet with Ground Control to discuss this issue.
- A RCC Enforcement Policy is planned, to be taken to the Portfolio Holder and beyond in coming months.
- Mapping of areas could be shared with parishes, on request, once an RCC review has been completed.
- That there would likely be an opportunity in the future to devolve cutting of grass, etc. to parishes. MLoran was not aware of any plan to press for this devolvement.

The Chair thanked Mr Loran for his presentation.

7) RUTLAND ADULT LEARNING SERVICE (RALS) – Bob Shore, Adult Learning Manager, Rutland County Council

This presentation was given as part of the tour of Oakham Enterprise Park and the Adult Learning Centre immediately prior to this meeting.

8) COMMUNITY SHOPS – Sheila Saunders, Gill Coleman and Pat o’Keefe, Barrowden Community Shop.

A photo presentation was given and leaflets distributed.

Mrs Saunders, Mrs Coleman and Mrs O’Keefe gave a detailed history of the project and described the different services provided by the shop and their experiences in being involved with the setting up of the shop and being a volunteering.

Key issues highlighted included:

- Set up as a Company Limited by Guarantee, not for profit, in March 2006.
- The Plunkett Foundation (*promotes and supports co-operatives and social enterprises in rural communities*) was the first place to contact for advice if thinking of setting up a community shop.

The following points were noted:

- In reply to a query, the Forum was advised that the shop had never had to close or curtail hours open due to running short of stock; and there had not been any instances of shoplifting.
- That people of all age groups were involved in the scheme.
- That committee members were committed to covering hours not covered by volunteers.
- That profits had been successfully put back into the shop.
- That the amount of work undertaken had been phenomenal.

The Chair thanked Mrs Saunders, Mrs Coleman and Mrs O’Keefe for their presentation

9) PARISH BRIEFING PAPER

The Parish Briefing Paper for 24 July 2015 was circulated at the meeting.

Electronic version to be emailed to clerks. Jpeg format requested to enable upload to websites.

10) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Digital Intervention

In response to a request that the Digital Rutland website be updated: *The remaining Project Intervention Areas were locked down as of 30 June 2015. The website is in the process of being updated and more detailed information over the next 6 to 9 months will follow.*

Rutland Water Partnership

The Chair advised that there was a vacancy, Peter Gooding having stood down. The Partnership was looking for 1 or 2 representatives from the villages surrounding Rutland Water. Expressions of interest were invited.

11) DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Tuesday 20 October 2015

Thursday 28 January 2016

Monday 18 April 2016

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.39pm

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PARISH COUNCIL FORUM
MONDAY 27 July 2015, 7.00PM

ATTENDANCE LIST

NAME	REPRESENTING
Cllr Kenneth Bool	Chair
Mr Derek Harrington	Brooke Parish Meeting
Mrs Margaret Towl	Burley Parish Meeting
Mr David Wall	Caldecott Parish Council
Mr Cliff Bacon	Clipsham Parish Meeting
Mr Chris Donovan	Cottesmore Parish Council
Mr Roger Hyde	Cottesmore Parish Council
Mr Janice Patient	Cottesmore Parish Council
Mr Colin Hagger	Exton Parish Council
Dr Andrew McGilvray	Ketton Parish Council
Dr Janet Higgins	Langham Parish Council
Mr Simon Aley	Manton Parish Meeting
Mr Paul Cummings	North Luffenham Parish Council
Mr Martin Brookes	Oakham Town Council
Mr Michael Elliott	Oakham Town Council
Mr Adam Lowe	Oakham Town Council
Mrs Joyce Lucas	Oakham Town Council
Mr Phil Grimley	Preston Parish Meeting
Cllr Tony Mathias	Rutland County Council (Oakham SE Ward)
Mrs Susan Smith	Ryhall Parish Council
Mr John Hall	South Luffenham Parish Council
Mrs Susan Sewell	South Luffenham Parish Council
Mr Simon Blackman	Stoke Dry Parish Meeting
Mr R Foster	Stretton Parish Council
Mr Anthony Redmayne	Thorpe By Water Parish Meeting
Mr Mike Clatworthy	Tickencote Parish Meeting
Mrs Barbara Musie	Tixover Parish Meeting
Mr David Ainslie	Uppingham Town Council
Mrs Chris Edwards	Uppingham Town Council
Mr Neil Wedge	Uppingham Town Council

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THE PARISH BRIEFING



Rutland
County Council

Also available online at:
www.rutland.gov.uk

Friday 24 July 2015

DISCOVER RUTLAND DAY



*Discover Rutland Day
September 12th 2015*

Discover Rutland Day is a fantastic day out for all of the family.

Featuring a live music stage and a popular food festival, Discover Rutland Day is held on shores of Rutland Water at Sykes Lane, Empingham.

Attractions this year will include fairground rides, exhibition stalls, art and craft activities, sports demonstrations and lots more.

The event attracts around 5,000 visitors from across the region so be sure to put a note in your diary. You can find out more about what's happening in Rutland by visiting: discover-rutland.co.uk

RUTLAND COMMUNITY AGENTS SERVICE

A new service that aims to help people in Rutland and strengthen local communities enjoyed its official launch at a special event in Oakham last month.

Rutland Community Agents provides information and guidance to people who need support and can be accessed free by anyone in the County.



Community Agents provide information and help in a number of important areas, including:

- Home safety
- Social isolation, befriending and meeting new people
- Volunteering opportunities to help others
- Financial or benefit advice to maximise income
- Access to transport
- Helping people stay independent at home

The service has already helped more than 100 people and continues to grow. A dedicated website offers people access information and self-help toolkits while home visits by trained professionals ensure accessibility for those who live in Rutland's most rural areas.

For more information or to arrange a visit from a Community Agent, see www.rutlandcommunityagents.org.uk You can get in touch by emailing: info@rutlandcommunityagents.org.uk or calling: 01572 335101.



The Rutland Community Agents Service, which is run by Spire Homes in partnership with the Rural Community Council for Leicestershire & Rutland, is funded by Rutland County Council and the Big Lottery Fund and supports the development of Health and Social Care in Rutland.

URGENT CARE SERVICE

Did you know Rutland has a new urgent care service that offers access to treatment outside of normal hours?

The service is intended to provide patients with more choice and increased access to healthcare at weekends, Bank Holidays and evenings. Minor injuries and illnesses can be treated locally, reducing the time it takes patients to be seen.

Rutland Memorial Hospital in Oakham now has an urgent care centre which deals with minor injuries and illnesses from **8.30am to 9pm Mon-Fri** and **9am to 7pm on Weekends and Bank Holidays**.

You can find out more about the new urgent care service on the Council's website or through [East Leicestershire and Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group](#).



Rutland's Urgent Care Service is based at the Memorial Hospital in Oakham

NOMINEES FOR HONOURS

Following the recent announcement of Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday Honours, I would like to ask Rutland residents to consider the many worthwhile individuals within our own communities who work tirelessly for various good causes.

Honours are a wonderful encouragement to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional service and achievement – whether they are community organisers, run neighbourhood groups, work for voluntary or charitable organisations, or strive to strengthen our rural communities and market towns.

The outstanding work they do, although absolutely essential and for the benefit of many, can often go unnoticed and it is our collective responsibility to ensure they are suitably rewarded for their endeavour.

If you know someone whom you believe is deserving of an Honour and would like advice about how to make a nomination, please email Honours@rutland.gov.uk and a member of Rutland's Honours Advisory Panel will contact you.

The Panel will be happy to offer support and guidance around the nomination process and answer any questions you may have.

Let us all do our best for Rutland.

Dr Laurence Howard
Lord Lieutenant of Rutland

Important Information About Your Parish

Following the elections in May there have been a number of co-options to fill vacant places.

To ensure that the County Council's records are up to date parish clerks are asked to confirm the names of all parish councillors within their respective parishes, along with the number of vacancies remaining. Please forward this information to: elections@rutland.gov.uk as soon as possible

