

Minutes of a meeting of Rothersthorpe Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Church Street, Rothersthorpe on Monday June 29th 2015 at 7.30p.m.

Present: Mr R Boscott – Chairman, Mrs C Nolan, Mrs J Johnson, Mr J Morphy, Mrs J Eliot, and Mrs J Botterill.

In Attendance: Mrs A Addison – District Councillor, Mrs K Cooper - District Councillor, Mrs S Murphy – Clerk

5 Members of the Public – Mr P Dickens, Mr M Barber, Mr C Appleton, Mr D Kettell and Mr A Davies.

Mr M Desorgher, Mr K Schofield and 3 other representatives from Ecotechworld.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Miss H Griffith (holiday)

2. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on any item on the agenda.

3. Public Open Session.

Mr Desorger addressed the meeting and introduced Khalid Schofield and the other representatives from EcoTechWorld. Mr Schofield gave a brief overview of EcoTechWorld. Their main aims are Energy Conservation, Energy Generation and Sustainable Growth. Projects they have been involved with so far include a solar farm at Chalgrave in South Oxfordshire. Possible community benefits from such schemes include solar systems on community roofs, interactive speed signs etc. The proposed site would be a 5MW development on grade 3 agricultural land.

Mr Boscott said that the land and the M1 act as a barrier to the urban sprawl from Northampton. Any non agricultural development could lead to further development. Mr Schofield said that the land will remain as agricultural land and will return to such when the panels are removed after 25 years. He explained that brown field sites are expensive to develop and are normally earmarked for housing. Visual impact will be lessened by hedge screening and the site will be maintained by wild flower planting etc.

Mr Davies asked about potential financial benefits. These would mainly be community benefits. Mrs Nolan asked about linking up with Swan Valley. This would be possible with a link under the M1.

Mr Desorger, Mr Schofield and the representatives left the meeting.

Mr Appleton commented that 27 acres was a very large site. Mr Barber said that he would support any such scheme.

Mr Dickens said that he had been unsuccessful in contacting the Street Doctor about the potholes in The Lane. Mrs Murphy explained that she had agreed to meet with highways to see if anything could be done to improve The Lane.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the previous parish council meeting held on May 18th were agreed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

Churchyard Wall and Gates

Val Bridges has suggested that the gates are not repaired until the church roof is repaired so they are not damaged whilst the scaffolding and materials are moved in. She is still waiting for a response from the architect regarding the wall.

20mph Speed Limit – North Street

The speed limit review panel has met and determined that there is no compelling evidence to support a reduction to 20mph on North Street.

Village of the Year

Mrs Johnson thanked Mr Dickens for his work in talking to the Village of the Year judges on their recent visit to the village.

6. Clerk's Report

Internal Audit Report

The Audit was carried out on June 17th 2015. The main areas for the parish council to review were the cemetery fees, which were last reviewed in September 2011. It had been agreed in February 2015 to defer the review to the newly elected council after May 2015. NALC Standing Orders have not been reviewed since they were adopted in 2012. Standing Orders need to be updated to incorporate the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations about the public recording and filming of meetings. The Parish Council also need to look into its responsibilities as custodian trustees of the Memorial Hall Garden.

Village Services Questionnaire

SNC are carrying out a survey of Village services. The only recent addition is the visit of the fish and chip van on Tuesday evenings.

7. Planning

S/2015/1065/MAF: Proposed Solar Farm, Land West of Banbury Lane, Rothersthorpe.

The Parish Council objected to the above planning application. The reasons given are extensive and can be viewed on the application site.

Following the discussion with Ecotechworld the parish council felt it was appropriate to review the response to the application. The financial and community benefits are worth considering but there will still be farm lorries and maintenance vehicles coming out of the site and visibility issues.

Mr Boscott proposed a vote: Those who wish to object to the application: 3 votes

Those who now support the application: 3 votes

Before the parish council consider amending their response, it was agreed that further research is needed into other Ecotechworld projects.

S/2015/119/FUL

Mr S Harris

Barn House

10 North Street

Detached Garage at Barn House

10 North Street

Rothersthorpe

The Parish Council have no objection.

S/2015/1190/MAF
TGC Renewables Ltd
100 Brand Street
Glasgow

Proposed Solar farm and associated
development on Land to south of
Hill Farm Gayton Road

Mr Boscott proposed that the parish council have no objection. 5 votes for with 1 objection therefore motion carried.

S/2015/1417/FUL
Mr P Chambers
4 Berry Close
Rothersthorpe

Extension to roof comprising of
front & rear dormers at
4 Berry Close

The Parish Council have no objection.
Mrs Addison and Mrs Cooper left the meeting.

8. Finance

Expenditure

Allseasons: Gardening to 31 st May	£420.00 Chq No. 000923
	Vat:£70.00
E.ON – Street Lighting	£145.66 “ “ 000924
	Vat:£24.28
Mrs S Murphy – Salary	£463.26 “ “ 000925
Mrs B Osborne – Payroll Services	£48.00 “ “ 000926
Rothersthorpe Village Hall – Room Hire	£33.00 “ “ 000927

Change of Signatories

Current Account: It was agreed to add Mrs Jodie Johnson to the Lloyds Bank Current Account Signatory List and to remove Mr Considine from the list.

National Savings: It was agreed that Mr Rob Boscott, Mrs Christy Nolan, Mrs Jodie Johnson and Mrs Julie Botterill will become the new signatories on the NSB account and the Memorial Garden Account.

9. Highways/Footpaths

Community Enhancement Gang

They will be visiting the village on July 2nd.

Street Doctor

Mrs Murphy suggested that highway issues should be made direct to Street doctor rather than waiting for meetings.

10. Representative Reports

School: Governors will be meeting next week

VHMC: Meeting next week. New fire curtains have been ordered.

Neighbourhood Watch: Nothing to report

Website: All up to date

Rothersthorpe Society: Possibly meeting to discuss solar farm applications.

11. Dates of the Next Meetings

Monday August 3rd at 7.30p.m.

Monday September 7th at 7.30p.m.

Meeting close at 8.55p.m

Signed.....Dated.....