

(These minutes are published subject to approval by the Parish Council and to any amendments that will be recorded in the minutes of the Meeting at which they are approved)

Groby Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on
Monday 9th March 2009 at the Drama Studio, Groby Community College, Ratby Road, Groby

Cou/240/08-09 Present.

Members: Cllr. P. Batty (Chairman), Cllr. J. Batty, Cllr. Beck, Cllr. Hollick, Cllr. Lindsay, Cllr. Jones, Cllr. McQuillin, Cllr. Quilter, Cllr. L. Smith and Cllr. Yarwood.

County Cllr. Fraser.

Approximately 70 members of the public were in attendance.

Cou/241/08-09 Apologies.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. Cartwright, Cllr. Emmerson, Cllr. Marvin, Cllr. J. Smith, and Cllr. Stockill. These apologies were accepted by the meeting.

Cou/242/08-09 Election of Vice Chairman for the meeting.

Cllr. L. Smith was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman for the meeting.

Cou/243/08-09 Declarations of Interest.

Cllr. McQuillin and Cllr. Quilter declared a personal interest as members of the Groby Residents' Group.

All Councillors declared a personal interest as residents of the village.

Cou/244/08-09 Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed County Cllr. Fraser to the meeting.

Cou/245/08-09 Parish Council Response to HBBC Local Development Framework Site Allocations Document Public Consultation

The Chairman introduced this item He reported back to the meeting following the public consultation exercise undertaken by HBBC at Groby Community College on 19th February. The feedback that he had received from those who had been present at the meeting was not very positive.

There were inconsistencies in the information provided to residents which was confusing and had given no confidence that the LDF was in competent hands. It was definitely not the case that Sacheverell Way had been removed from the list of options for a transit site.

The Chairman urged everyone not to miss the opportunity to comment upon these proposals.

At 7.40pm the Chairman suspended Standing Orders for an indefinite period to allow public participation.

Cou/246/08-09 Public Participation

Members of the public made contributions in the following areas:

- There was a question as to whether the term "travellers" was an acceptable one or whether evidence using this would be excluded;
- It was pointed out that there is a lack of consistency in the labelling of the LDF dependencies and maps;
- There was a discussion over the land at GRO21 and the implications for wildlife;
- It was questioned why the travellers' site need to be so close to the settled community;
- There was a brief discussion on Stoke Road in Hinckley as the preferred option for a transit site [this would be discussed again by the Council on 2nd July];

- It was confirmed that Sacheverell Way had not been removed from the list of options for the transit site;
- There was a question regarding the ownership of the land on Sacheverell Way;
- A member of the public asked whether the Parish Council was working with neighbouring parishes, in particular Ratby and Anstey in fighting these proposals;
- There was a discussion over the sustainability of the Anstey Lane site and the lack of infrastructure;
- The number and location of unauthorised encampments in North West Leicestershire and Leicester City was discussed;
- The point was made that a transit site in Groby would not serve the needs of HBBC but would be an overspill site for North West Leicestershire and the city;
- The Chairman mentioned the traveller sites at Copt Oak and Markfield which were both very well run and presented few problems to the local community. The current proposals from HBBC made little sense;
- A member of the public said that he had visited the sites and that Stoke Road was the ideal option. He also mentioned that if Sacheverell Way is chosen it was certain that it would be extended;
- It was stated that both the settled community and the travelling community would prefer to be further apart and that an objection should be filed that the current proposals place them too close together;
- It was confirmed that objections did not have to be filed on the blue forms. Letters and e-mails are perfectly acceptable;
- The proposals for housing in the village did not include access to Sacheverell Way;
- The area of separation between Ratby and Groby would start to disappear with the realignment of the settlement boundary;
- There is already insufficient open space in the village;
- It was suggested that the Klondyke should be used for additional allotments if they are required;
- Groby schools are at capacity: temporary classrooms are in use and there is no provision for additional special needs capacity;
- Amenities within the village are at full stretch: doctors, dentist, parking etc;
- No impact assessment has been undertaken by HBBC of these proposals;
- Any future housing development would impact upon broadband access.

Cou/247/08-09 Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as **Monday 6th April 2009 at 7.00pm.**

The meeting closed at 9.31pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date