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Mrs C Hedworth—852078
Mr M G Hemsley -852273
Mr R Hetherington -853344
(Chairman)
Mr R Jenks—853629
Mr J Jones—820709
Mr J R K Males -852456
Mrs M M Males-852456
Mr S C Matthews - 820697
Mr C Oatey -852549
Mr P Rapley—853368
Mrs G A Robinson -852797
(Vice-Chairman)
Mr J Thurman—852834
Mr P L Warren—856072

Rushcliffe Borough

Councillors:

Cllr Marie Males
Cllr Ron Hetherington
Cllr Brian Dale

**Nottinghamshire County
Councillor:**

Lynn Sykes - 0115 9372157

Seasons Greetings



It is December again, the time to write an article for the last Parish Council Newsletter of 2007. What will be your memories of 2007? We have probably forgotten about the beautiful weather in April, and recall the rain, drizzle, and more rain of the wettest summer for a number of years. Fortunately we did not have any serious flooding in the village, probably more by luck than infrastructure investment. We still had the on-going problem with Severn Trent putting diluted but untreated sewage into the Kingston Brook when, yet again, the lack of separation of Storm Water and Sewage drains overloads the pumping station. Unfortunately, this year, some pets died – thought to be as a result of drinking polluted water, although it has not been possible to prove this, and certainly Severn Trent denies any responsibility.

I suppose the other topic that has been making the headlines during the year is an increasing concern over global warming. Last year I linked this to the extended growing season for grass, and the need to have extra cuts, particularly on the playing fields – only to be challenged by a few residents who linked this to unnecessary increases in council taxes. Although there are still a few who think the seasonal changes are unconnected to atmospheric, man-made, pollution – most of us are beginning to think of ways of reducing our impact on the environment. At Parish Council, we are providing better controls to reduce the amount of water used – a small and insignificant step in the scale of the problems associated with the population’s environmental impact, yet our investment will give a small financial payback in months rather than years. There is obviously a lot more both society and local councils can do – changing the building regulations to improve the insulation in houses, for example, although this is well outside the remit of the Parish Council tier of local government.

Again, this year, the Parish Council and the local traders are decorating the village for the Christmas festive season. Although a few people think the Christmas season is in conflict with the action needed to reduce global warming, the Parish Council have taken steps to use very energy efficient Christmas lights, and locally sourced trees that are then recycled in the New Year. I am sure that, for the majority, our decorations provide a bit of Christmas cheer over what, otherwise, may be a very dull time of year. I hope we can all do our bit to support the various businesses in our village, as well as being sensitive to any of our neighbours who need help and support at, what can be, a lonely time when others are enjoying the seasonal activities.

On behalf of the staff and members of the East Leake Parish Council, I offer Seasons Greetings, and look forward to the challenges we will face in the New Year

Ron Hetherington (Chairman: East Leake Parish Council)

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Beat Manager



As announced in our last Newsletter PC Nick Lowe has now, after seven and a half year's service in South Rushcliffe, left the area to take up his new responsibility. Not surprisingly his departure was recognised by a flood of e-mails and letters regretting the move but also recognising his significant contribution to crime reduction in our area.

Nick has said that "Its been an honour and a pleasure to work amongst the communities in the villages over the past few years and I will miss the challenges that local policing brings. It was a difficult decision to leave. Thanks to everyone who has helped me over the years".

Inspector Jeff Haywood, local Area Commander for Rushcliffe South, adds "Over the past seven and half years, PC Lowe has served his community well and has become a font of local knowledge. He is hard working, dedicated and epitomises everything a beat Manager should be".

Nick Lowe is to be replaced by PC Kelly Warwick who joins from the Safer Neighbourhood Team based at Bingham. Kelly has been a Police Officer for over five years and has spent the whole of this service in the South Rushcliffe area, she is, therefore, already familiar with East Leake

Inspector Haywood comments that "Nick has set a high bar for his successor but I have no doubt that PC Warwick will meet the challenge".

Airport Issues



East Leake is one of 47 local Parish Councils who make up the Association of Airport Related Parish Councils (AARPC). This group representing over 100,000 residents around the airport.

Two year's ago the Airport Independent Consultative Committee decided to set up two committees to deal with environmental and transport issues respectively. The AARPC were asked to provide a member for the Transport Committee but not the Environmental. Recently this decision was extended for a further two years.

Your Parish Council, along with all other AARPC members, feel that it is the environmental issues which form the major area of concern.

With this in mind the Parish Council have written to the Airport Authority to request representation on the Environment Committee currently denied.

We hope to be in a position to record a positive response in the near future.

Village Show Surplus



Following on from the regrettably late cancellation of last year's Village Show we are pleased to report the significant success this year.

The show generated 115 exhibitors who submitted over 500 entries in the various classes. Thanks to them, and the hard work of the show committee, a surplus of £1100 was generated. The surplus will come in useful to fund some of the improvements projected for this village facility.

Pedometers and All That



You may recall that in our last issue we reported on the possibility of primary school children in the village being offered pedometers This is in order to encourage greater exercise via a walk to school with attendant benefits in traffic reduction.

At that time we commented that this would be dependent on an interest from the two primary schools in the village. To date one of the schools concerned has given verbal agreement to this with no response, positive or negative, from the other.

However, things have moved on with this project and it now appears likely that the County Council and Borough Council will be going ahead with the scheme regardless of interest from the schools. It is likely to get the go ahead in 2008.

Village Hall Refurbishment



Many of you will by now have noticed the considerable visual improvement to the exterior and entrance to the village hall. What you may not have yet witnessed is the re-decoration carried out to the interior.

Paint to undertake this was purchased and the work carried out by volunteers. The village should be grateful to all concerned.

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

The Parish Office will close at 12.00 noon Monday 24th December 2007 and re-open Wednesday 2 January 2008

Eco Village Locally



A new large-scale development plan has been put forward for a proposed 6000 houses, together with

required infrastructure, at Kingston-on-Soar on lands currently forming part of Kingston Estates.

The northern part of this proposed development is currently within the Nottingham/Derby greenbelt. The land is at present in agricultural use and is mainly arable land forming a broad swathe through the Soar and Trent valleys. The land is claimed to have "little ecological merit" but does contain woodlands and a "network of mature hedgerows". The developers claim that these can be "integrated and enhanced".

Of the 6000 houses to be constructed the developers claim that at least 30% will be classed as "affordable" and that about half of these will be build by 2016. They will include provision for the elderly and be "well integrated with services". In addition, provision will be made for three primary schools as well as a secondary school.

A cycle network forms part of the plans to form strategic links to surrounding towns. Public transport "prioritised links" to surrounding towns is also included.

It is claimed that approximately 3,700 jobs will be created. They hope to attract bioscience and environmental science companies with strong links to Loughborough and Nottingham University's Sutton Bonnington Campus.

The development proposed will be Eco-friendly with facilities for receiving and processing waste and biomass resources as well as provision of renewable energy within the new town development.

Gotham Road Planning Appeal

This appeal was held on November 7th and the Planning Inspector heard both sides to this ongoing argument.

He has subsequently said that he hopes to have his report published by early January and the Secretary of State has promised a decision by 4th March 2008.

We will all await this decision with considerable interest.

REGISTRAR'S ATTENDANCE



THE REGISTRAR FOR BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE PARISH OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH 2007 AND THEN NOT UNTIL JANUARY 2RD 2008.

Neighbourhood Watch



Neighbourhood Watch, in conjunction with local Police Officers, recently held a very successful recruitment event

outside the Co-op. However, more volunteers are still required and they urge **all** residents to have a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in their locality.

If you feel you need further information on how to proceed then contact Wendy Morris at the Police Station or ring Jenny de Villiers on 852771. We are assured that the role of local organiser is not a time consuming one!

The next meeting of Neighbourhood Watch is to be held in the Parish Office at 7.30pm on Monday 3rd March 2008. This will include a training session for local organisers so please come along.

A neighbourhood Watch scheme deters burglars as well as having insurance premium benefits.

Police Station Volunteers Correction

In our last Newsletter we reported on the recognition of Steven Barrow's Service as a volunteer at the Police Station.

Unfortunately, we were supplied with the wrong, uncorrected, press statement. We are pleased to be able to put the record straight.

The corrected version quite rightly paid tribute to Tom Adam who was one of the original volunteers when this scheme started about 10 years' ago. Tom has not only acted as a volunteer but has been totally responsible for recruitment and organisation of volunteers and also for liaising with the Police at local and senior level. Tom also played a leading role in the lobby which encouraged the Nottinghamshire Police Authority to retain the village Police Station and provide East Leake with the successful Community Policing we currently enjoy.

Salisbury Avenue



The Parish Council are looking into who is responsible for the shrubs adjacent to the Post Office

as these are now causing some problems through encroachment on to the footpath. The problems created are exacerbated by the inconsiderate parking of many motorists on this path.

Establishing ownership of the area is posing some difficulties. It may well prove easier for the Parish Council to trim these back in the short term.

When the Sun Shines



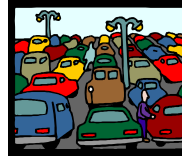
It may be a few months yet before sunshine is likely to cause problems to the children playing on Gotham Road. However, some parents have commented that there is no shelter from the sun available in the younger children's fenced area.

The Carnival Committee had also identified this when requesting suggestions as to how to disburse the profit from the event.

Thanks to the expertise of Rob Cavill parents can now be assured that a suitable shade will be installed around April 2008.

This will be a steel construction and will cost about £2000

Car Parks



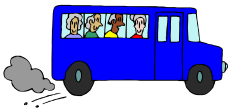
The Parish Council have accepted a quotation in the sum of £1218 for the repair of the potholes in the Health Centre and Parish Office car parks.

No decision was taken in respect of the Gotham Road car park until a firm decision as to the future arrangement has been made by Rushcliffe Borough Council

A DATE FOR YOUR NEW DIARY

Saturday, 5 April 2008 has been designated as our annual 'Litter Pick Day'.

EAST LEAKE PERSONAL SHOPPING SERVICE



The Parish Council, in conjunction with East Leake Community Care and the Soar Valley Bus, are considering the introduction of a Community Bus Service to operate on Mondays (excluding Bank Holidays) each week for the benefit of the elderly and disabled.

The purpose is to provide a personal door-to-door service for residents of East Leake to the village centre, with a return trip approx. one hour later. The cost will be 50p per trip.

Before taking the planning any further, however, we do need to establish the need for this service. Please, therefore, complete the enclosed initial registration form and return it to the Parish Office by 15th January 2008. We will also need volunteer drivers to operate the scheme. Full training will be given at no cost to the trainee. If you are interested, please let the Parish Clerk know.



EAST LEAKE WEEKLY SHOPPING SERVICE

I/we would like to register as potential users of the weekly shopping service.

NAME..... ADDRESS.....

TEL NO.....

I am likely/unlikely to use any of the following; walking frame, wheelchair, shopping trolley.

Please delete as appropriate

I understand that there will be a flat rate charge of 50p for this service, single or return.

Whilst every effort will be made to run this service circumstances beyond the control of the organiser may prevent a service from taking place. An attempt will be made to notify you in advance of operating difficulties but cannot be guaranteed.

Signed Date.....

Please return completed form to the Parish Office, 45 Main Street, East Leake