Minutes of Ryhall Parish Council Meeting on Monday 06 July 2026 at 19:00 in the Library

Present: Cllrs. Debbie Rolfe (Chair), David Wilby, Simon Houghton, Kevin Corby, Sarah Markwell-Cook, David Denman, Reg Symonds & Marsha Richards
In Attendance: 3 members of the public and Sarah Gresty-Parish Clerk.

Public Forum

Unauthorised Ponies A report was received regarding traveller ponies being placed illegally on farmland over Easter weekend. Police are aware. GRC, a horse-bailiff organisation, quoted £14,000 for the removal of two ponies, with higher costs for additional animals. Notices were issued and the ponies were temporarily removed, but they have since returned. The unauthorised grazing is a civil matter; however, damage to locks and gates is a criminal offence. Emergency powers were previously used to move the ponies into open fields for public safety. There remains concern for public safety on the footpath.

Agenda

26/27-34 Apologies for Absence: None received

26/27-35 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations. None declared.

26/27-36 Minutes of :
a) 08 June 2026 Parish Council meeting were presented as a true and accurate record of events. Proposed adoption Cllr. Markwell-Cook, Seconded Cllr. Houghton, Cllrs. Corby, Rolfe and Symonds abstained for absence, remaining unanimously agreed.

b) Action Tracker Update

- **White Bridge** Another incident has caused further damage. RCC has closed the bridge and installed a temporary safety barrier. **Action:** Councillors will press the Portfolio Holder for urgent progress. If the response is inadequate, a formal complaint will be submitted.
- **Flooding** This item will be removed from the Tracker but will continue to be monitored.
- **A6121 Line Marking** Contractors are prioritising junction markings. The remaining works are expected to be completed before September.
- **CIL Funding – Churchyard Footpath Lighting** An electrician has been appointed at a cost of £970. The agreed lighting works will begin shortly.
- **River Gwash – Sewage Concerns** Responses from the Environment Agency and Anglian Water are still awaited.

26/27-37 Co option of Vacant Seat on the Parish Council.

Proposal: To **resolve** to **accept** co option application from Becky Hickman. Proposed Cllr. Rolfe, Seconded Cllr. Marshall with a unanimous voted in favour. Becky accepted the post and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting at this point in the agenda.
Current Year 2026/27

26/27-38 Financial matters presented by the Clerk as follows:

Financial Report for the period 01 June 2026 to 30 June 2026 with bank statements.
The Council **NOTED**: That Income of £2934.11 had been received in June. The Council **RESOLVED** to **AUTHORISE** the bank transfer from the savings account to the current account of £5,000 on 1st June, Expenditure Totalling £5,755.40 as shown on the Financial Report for June. The Financial Report and bank statements for June were checked by all Councillors prior to the meeting. Signed and proposed by Cllr. Richards, Seconded Cllr. Wilby and unanimously agreed.

26/27-39 Planning.

- 2026/0655/LBA Green Dragon, removal of ivy and work on outbuildings

Response: no objections

- 2026/0731/FUL Unit 1, Essendine Road change of use of fitness studio

Response: no objections

- 2026/0623/FUL 20 Foundry Road single storey extension and 2.5 bay garage

Response: no further objections

- 2026/0016/Appeal River Gwash Trout

Response: To support appellant as there is no objection. Action: Cllr. Corby to clarify the appeals response procedures for the parish council.

26/27-40 Village Issues

a) To receive updates or new issues

i) Illegal Horses. Actions:
Cllr. Rolfe will speak with PCSO
Cllr. Wilby to speak with Police Commissioner and the High Sheriff
Cllr. Corby to speak with RCC regarding footpath safety and gate ownership
Cllr. Corby to confirm RCC's legal stance on supplying land to travellers
Clerk to source contact for the national traveller liaison body

ii) A resident has reported concerns of rubbish been thrown into the cemetery on Church Lane. This was noted.

iii) Crimestoppers have received reports of suspicious activities on Meadow Lane.

b) **Neighbourhood Plan**

Phase one of the plan is now completed having received approximately 150 questionnaires. Data will be analysed and results available at the fete.

Cllr. Rolfe thanked everyone who had been involved.

Phase two plans could take up to 18 months – 2 years. Further information will follow the next Steering group meeting.

c) **Mallard Pass Compensation**

Negotiations continue. An upfront payment of £200k has been agreed, with distribution between affected parishes still under discussion. Wider impacts on other parishes (e.g., traffic) are being considered. Ongoing community benefit funds are not currently a statutory requirement. The affected parish group members, lead by the ex chairman of Essendine are working with the developers.

26/27-41 Report from Councillors on meetings they have attended as parish council representatives.

Cllr. Wilby had chaired the recent Parish Forum.
Cllr. Wilby attended the East Midlands Council which covers the area south of Manchester down to Northampton and out to the coast at Lincoln. Nobody really knows what is happening. There is news due on 13th July regarding changes in LGR, however with so many changes this is likely to be delayed.

Cllr. Markwell Cook had attending some Planning Training.

26/27-42 Correspondence received since the previous meeting was noted from the Agenda.

26/27-43 Future Meeting agenda items.
Proposal to move to bi-monthly meetings, with urgent business handled via Extraordinary Meetings.

The meeting finished at 20:36

Dates of Schedules Parish Council Meetings: 2026 7 Sept, 5 Oct, 2 Nov & 7 Dec.
2026 11 Jan, 1 Feb, 1 Mar, Wed 7 Apr (Village Hall – Annual Parish meeting cheese & wine) 10 May, 7 Jun, 5 Jul, 6 Sept, 4 Oct, 8 Nov and 6 Dec.