

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the JESSIE HUGHES VILLAGE HALL on Tuesday 16th April 2019 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs. Arthur Nicholas, Neil Thompson, Graham Sime, Eddie Shaw, Mike Wilson, Emma Leslie,

In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Eveleigh Moore-Dutton

19.04.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

Resolved: that the apologies from Cllrs. Markham be received and accepted.

19.04.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the 19th March 2019 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr. Wilson

Seconded: Cllr. Sime

Resolved: that the minutes of the Extra-Ordinary meeting of the 2nd April 2019 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr. Sime

Seconded: Cllr. Wilson

19.04.03 Public Speaking Time

It is with much regret that we announce the passing of villager Ken Parker after a period of illness. Ken joined Rushton Parish Council after retirement, taking his turn as Chairman and contributing to issues affecting the village. In 2006 Ken offered to be the architect and Project Manager of our Jessie Hughes Village Hall re-build. The many enthusiastic comments from users to this day, is a testament to Ken's skills of design and we are so lucky as a community to have this splendid and well used facility. Ken then joined Tarporley Parish Council, also becoming their Chairman, guiding the Council through a tough time of evolution as the town continued to grow. Other jobs involved being a judge for the County Best Kept Village Competition, being a regular member & Chair of the local Millpool Probus Club and looking after our Village Cross, ensuring bedding plants were in on time, well watered and tended to. Brenda and Ken's house is an important building in Eaton Village and their immaculate garden has been a work of love which all those passing have also enjoyed. Ken will be sorely missed as an enthusiastic and active member of our Parish making a real difference by his input.

Mr David Nicholas the County Chairman for Cheshire Young Farmers attended the Parish Council meeting to tell us about two events that will be taking place over the summer. On the 8th August a comedy event will be held that is open to members of the public, with details of how to buy tickets being circulated once available. On the 10th August the Young Famers Annual Ball will take place this is a black-tie event for members only. The events will raise money for three charities.

This event is being co-ordinated with the assistance of the police, CWaC and licencing authorities. CCTV, sound monitoring and security will ensure there is minimal impact on the local residents.

Mr Bert Platt attended to raise the disappointment of himself and other residents that the Parish Council were supporting the planning application made for the Old School House. Mr Platt is not apposed to the division of the house but is apposed to the new drive way.

Concerns include;

- The slope of ramp will be 1:3
- Spaces for 4 cars outside a listed property which does not seem appropriate
- Very close to cross and very close to other listed properties

A listed building is classed as the structures around the building, physically and manually bound together for example sandstone walls so to loss some of the sandstone wall to enable the drive to be constructed would be a very poor president to set.

The Parish Council have not been notified by CWaC that additional time had been given for comments on the planning application.

Rushton Parish Council will re-enforce the serious concerns raised about the placement of the driveway and the proximity to the monument and junction.

19.04.04 Matters Arising**The trees on the green,**

The work on the trees has now been undertaken.

Vehicle Activated Sign

Cllrs. Sime has inspected the Vehicle Activated Sign and measured the solar panel dimensions. A new panel can be purchased for £140 including VAT and delivery, a plate will be needed to ensure it fits properly. If access via the fields are secured this cheaper option would be the best route.

If access through the fields is not possible, the repair to the VAS using TWM to undertake the work will cost an additional £200.

Proposal – purchase new solar panel through independent route if access through fields if granted, if not;

- **Purchase new solar panel through TWM at additional cost of £200.**
- **Proposed – Cllr. Thompson**
- **Seconded – Cllr. Leslie**

Local Elections

The local elections will occur on May 2nd, every 4 years the Parish Councillors are elected in as councillors. Rushton Parish Council is an 'Uncontested Parish'. Six councillors have stood in this year's elections which means that the Parish Council do have a vacancy. If you would like to become a Parish Councillor or would like to know more about the role of a Councillor, please contact the Clerk on rushtonclerk@aol.com

Cllr. Nicholas has decided after 14 years of being a councillor that it is time to stand down, Arthur has been a valued member of the Parish Council and his input will be highly missed.

19.03.05 Planning Matters**1- To note planning decisions.**

None

2- To consider response to planning applications received

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Appeal under Section 78

Site Address: Hill House Farm, The Hall Lane, Rushton, Tarporley, Cheshire, CW6 9AU,

Description of development: Erection of two log cabins for holiday accommodation **Application**

reference: 18/02238/FUL Appellant's name: Mr and Mrs Rayner

Planning Inspector ref: APP/A0665/W/19/3224003

Appeal reference: 19/00042/REF

Appeal start date: 4 April 2019

Rushton Parish Council will add no further comments to those already submitted to CWaC.

19.04.06 Highways**30mph extension along Eaton Lane**

Not all motorists using Eaton Lane remain within the speed limit. The road has numerous concealed entrances and bends which make the road a greater danger.

The current speed limit on Eaton Lane from Cotebrook into the village is 40mph, it would be safer if this was reduced to 30mph. Reducing the speed is very unlikely as the density of houses does not match that required for a 30mph speed area.

Cheshire constabulary have undertaken speed checks on three separate occasions on Eaton Lane, these have shown that there are vehicles going over the speed limit at various time of the day but especially rush hour.

A meeting with the Highways Department during December has led to Highways agreeing to refresh some of the road markings within the village. It was agreed that the parish council would prepare a plan for the village and hold a meeting to look at proposals to enhance the signage at the entrance to the village, including gates or planters, plus all other outstanding Highway issues. A further meeting with Highways will then take place once the Parish Council have finalised the proposals they wish to put forward.

Action- Liaise with Highways including a meeting, Cheshire Constabulary and look at ways to enhance the signage in the village

Cllr. Leslie, Wilson and Clerk

Potholes

Some potholes have been infilled along Royal Lane and Eaton Lane, these are poor quality repairs rather than permanent repairs.

Lower Lane is scheduled to be re-surfaced. Scottish Power also plan to undertake works on Lower Lane to place the overhead cable underground, the Clerk has contacted Scottish Power for an update as to when works will begin. Once a timescale of SP Energies works the Clerk will liaise with Highways.

The clerk has met with the contactors who will be undertaking the works, they were unable to give timescales and suggested SP would be best to advise. A representative of Scottish Power has made contact but no details given so far.

Action- Liaise with SP and Highways

Clerk

20mph zone

The 20mph zone has now been extended to include parts of Royal Lane, Lightfoot Lane and Sapling Lane, the whole of The Green and Lower Lane. Signs are in place and the 20mph speed limit is in place. Driving through the village towards Cotebrook, the speed changes from 20mph to 30mph at the village green, some residents are now experiencing vehicles accelerating out of the village centre past their properties. This will be taken up with Highways.

Action – liaise with Highways

Cllr. Leslie, Wilson and Clerk

The 30mph sign on Eaton Lane, the poles are leaning into the road, the signs are becoming damaged, one in particular has become so damaged it has a hole in it, this will need replacement. Following the meeting with Highways it was decided that that the poles need to be moved to prevent this occurring again. The movement of poles will require advertising to comply with legislation. It is hoped that this will be completed by the end of the financial year. A meeting with members of the Highways Dept. will be held on Wednesday 24th April to resolve this issue.

Action – liaise with Highways

Clerk

Cross

The Road Safety Team prepared a series of options including signs, road markings and vehicle activated signs. Following the meeting with Highways in December it has been decided that the Parish Council will re-address the proposals and determine the proposal we wish to put forward. Representatives of the Highways Dept. have recommended that the road marking should be re-painted, no dates have been given for this.

Action – liaise with Highways

Clerk

Oulton Mill Lane

Flooding occurs from the ditch on Oulton Mill Lane during the wetter months, the clerk is liaising with Highways, the landowner has cleared the drains and confirmed that there is a sandstone drain under the carriage way, there is no headwall to this drainage system.

The Clerk has contacted the Highways team about this again.

Action – Liaise with landowner and Highways

Clerk

Other issues that need liaison with the Highways Dept.

- The fingerpost sign From Hickhurst Lane to Dogmore Lane has been Knocked around so the sign now to Wettetall now points down Kings Lane.
- On Dogmore Lane at the bend opposite Parkgate Cottage drive, the road is giving way, it has been built up three times by the Highways Dept. and now the water runs the wrong way. There is approximately 35% lying water on the road, half a foot deep. To rectify this a drain needs to be placed down the roadside or new road surface.
- On Eaton Lane, after the Lodge there have been three accidents since September with cars going into the field hedge. The last one was very close to a tree.
- Oulton Mill Lane, a section of hedge approximately 80 metres in length has been removed from a field up to the road. Two accidents have occurred with cars going off the road as they were unable to see the bend in the snow. A marker or signage is required to make the road safe.
- On Winterford Lane a short distance down from the village, there appears to be a blocked drain, the road is a least half covered in water.
- Eaton Lane by the Red Lion development site, drain is blocked under the road and flooding the road.
- Sapling Lane, drain appears to be blocked causing water to run across the road.

19.04.07 Reports from Working Groups

Communications

Superfast Broadband

Connecting Cheshire Broadband

Most of the village now has access to Superfast Broadband with speeds up to 100mb, there are a few properties that are not yet possible to connect, and works will continue to provide more secure broadband to these premises.

Works are underway at Oxheys Lane and Winterford Lane to upgrade the network. There are a few residents who are struggling to get connections.

To determine whether you can access superfast broadband go to openreach.co.uk

Once broadband is available at your property, the customer can contact the service provider to arrange connection.

Connecting Cheshire have painted a sign onto the paving by the noticeboard advertising Fibre Broadband. Connecting Cheshire have reassured Rushton Parish Council that this marking is part of a 'Clean Ad' that is created using nothing but water and the removal of surface dirt. They do not mark or inscribe upon the highway and the ads typically last a couple of weeks before they wear away with dirt naturally being applied back to the clean area.

Development/Planning/Environment

Oulton Mill Picnic Area Project.

School Project: is well underway. £524.01 of the £1,000 (Tesco Grant) has been spent leaving £475.99.

The long tree trunk: has been made into seating for the school project, thank you to Martin Boardman for undertaking this.

The CWAC sign: has been amended to display Rushton Parish Council.

The Wild Meadow Area for the school project and mini apple orchard

On Friday 29th March, a working party of the Wilsons, Richard Potton, Eveleigh Moore-Dutton and Lindsey Worrall rotavated the 'wildflower meadow' area. The Parish Council board was installed, and the grass was mowed.

Saturday 30th March, Working Party including the Corradine family, sowed the meadow grass, installed bird boxes and built the first stages of the bug hotel.

The seeds have germinated and the trees are in flower.

Entrance Gate has a steep slope which Cllrs. Shaw and Nicholas have partially filled. This will be completed during March.

A general waste bin has been given to Rushton Parish Council for the Picnic Area, unfortunately it didn't have a key, a free key has been sent from the manufacturer. The bin was damaged when it was received, very kindly David Bloor of DWB Engineering has fabricated a base onto the bin to ensure it can be safely secured at the picnic area.

Nitrogen Oxide canisters have been found at both the picnic area and the play zone, they cause dizziness and a five-minute-high, using such 'mini highs' could lead to an increase in drug use. If any canisters are found in the parish, please report them to a parish councillor or to the parish clerk at rushtonclerk@aol.com

Youth/Social/Community

Play Zone Project

The Annual Inspection of the Play Zone is due this will cost £420 plus VAT.

Proposal – Annual Inspection of the Play Zone at a cost of £420 plus VAT to be paid by the parish Council

Proposed – Cllr. Thompson

Seconded – Cllr. Leslie

Youth Club

Numbers remain good with up to 40-45 juniors and 15-20 seniors attending.

Due to the youth club's popularity more volunteers are needed to help run the club, a rota like the play zone 52 rota has been suggested, if this cannot be arranged, the number of children attending will need to be capped at 30, this is to ensure the adequate number of trained first aiders and helpers are available.

If you would like to volunteer, please e-mail the Parish Clerk Lindsey Worrall at rushtonclerk@aol.com

A first aid kit has been purchased for the youth club.

Transport Survey

The transport survey has been undertaken, a meeting will now be held to understand the findings. Those that most need the services don't know what is available or how best to use the services.

Rose Farm Shop Transport

Currently Rose Farm Shop provide a mini bus service for Tarporley residents once a week to use all the facilities including;

Post Office

Café

Farm Shop (butchery, deli and fresh produce)

Gift shop

Florist

Rose Farm Shop are thinking of extending this service to neighbouring villages eg. Kelsall, Tarvin, **Eaton** and Bunbury.

If you know someone who would benefit from this service, call 01829 732978

19.04.08 External Meetings

19.04.09 Correspondence

Resolved: that correspondence received as detailed below be noted and the action list be agreed:

Reporter	Date	Description	Action
Member of public	22/03/19	Siting of the 20mph speed signs at both the village green and by the JHVI are not appropriate locations	To be part of the Report sent to Highways Dept.
A Sandbach MP	26/03/19	Proposed Transport Survey	Circulate
Utkinton and Cotebrook PC	02/04/19	Draft Transport Survey	Circulated by Chair

19.04.10 Finance Matters

Resolved: that the following net accounts are passed for payment:

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
Cheshire Community Action	Subscription of 2019-2010	£20.00		£20.00
JHVI	Hall Hire January and February 2019	£38.00		£38.00
Mr M Wilson	Picnic Area Project – seed, rotavator bird boxes	£341.51	£26.99	£368.50
Cheshire Community Action	Best Kept Village Competition	£45.00		£45.00
Cheshire Association of Local Councils (ChALC)	Subscription for 2019-20	£136.44		£136.44
Tarporley Garden Services	Maintenance to Oak Trees on the Village Green	£380.00		£380.00

To acknowledge and minute expenditure that has been made but not minuted.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
CPRE	Subscription of 2019-2010 (Paid by SO)	£12.00		£12.00

To agree that the Clerks pay from 1st April 2019 will increase from pay scale 20 (£10.30) to pay scale 21 (£10.67)

19.04.11 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st May 2019 at 7:30pm in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall

19.04.12 Any Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:35pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

DRAFT