

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the JESSIE HUGHES VILLAGE HALL on MONDAY 15th December 2014 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. D. Lilley, A. Nicholas, J. O'Shea, S. Roberts, M. Scott, E. Shaw,
M. Wilson (Chair)

In Attendance: A. Stubbs (clerk) Cllr. E. Moore-Dutton (CWAC)
Mr. P. Howson (Chair of Alpraham Parish Council)
Mr. S. Perry Mr. R. O'Shea
Mr. B. Stubbs

14.12.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

There were no apologies and no disclosures of interests.

14.12.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 17th November 2014 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

14.12.03 Public Speaking Time

Mr. P. Howson, Chair of Alpraham Parish Council, attended to outline some of their plans for creating a new Village Green, play area and key worker housing within the village. He hoped that if the two Parish Councils worked together then this would prevent duplication, for example, of play equipment provided. It was agreed by all that this was a very good idea.

Rowan O'Shea and Barnaby Stubbs gave a short presentation of their proposed replacement website and everyone agreed that this was progressing in the right direction and now needed sourcing with some current parish data.

Mr. S. Perry, a resident, attended to raise his concerns regarding the layby in Oxheys Lane. It was noted that there now seem to be a number of youths parking in the layby with a large amount of litter constantly being left. The problem seems to have been exacerbated by the 'Please take your litter home' sign recently erected. The Parish Council had discussed this layby 2 years ago and, at that point, it had been decided to leave it as a passing place.

Cllr. Shaw proposed that other local residents should be consulted along with Highways department who are responsible for the area and that a meeting should be set up in the New Year. The spoil that has been placed in the lay-by will be pushed back against the hedge until a decision has been made.

14.12.04 Matters Arising

Picnic Area

The hedges have now been trimmed around the area but we are still waiting for CWAC to make progress with legal matters. It was agreed that councillors should visit the site to start to draw up plans for its future use.

ACTION – Cllr. Roberts to set a date in the new year for a site meeting.

Plaque for trees on Kings Lane/Edgewell Lane

ACTION – With Cllr. Scott to progress

Grit Bins

All bins now in position and will be removed in early April.

Path to the Village Hall

Cllr. Wilson has asked the Village Hall committee to consider contributing towards the cost of the path and they have said they will respond by the January meeting. Cllr. Wilson has also seen a 'grid' system with gravel which could work well in this position.

ACTION – With Cllr. Wilson

Provision of affordable housing

Further replies to the survey have been received. It was agreed to defer this to the January meeting. Two young couples have also helped with their view on “affordable housing”.

Red Lion Pub

No action taken.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to chase and report back at next meeting.

Succession Plan for current projects

To be discussed in the new year. Cllr. Wilson is prepared to do another year (not as Chair) and will seek out those in the community that may stand in April as replacements for the 2/3 vacancies.

Sycamore Tree at Elm Tree Court

The resident who would like this trimmed has now been put in touch with the tree officer at CWAC to discuss.

Hedge Trimming

5 residents have now expressed an interest in this and this will be discussed further in January.

Signboards at Cotebrook

This has been raised with Utkinton Parish Council who have approached the shop owners at Cotebrook and asked them to be aware of the problem when placing their signboards. The situation will now be monitored.

Lay-by in Oxheys Lane

Discussed earlier in public speaking time.

14.12.05 Reports from Working Groups**Communications**Website

Currently unavailable as the domain name has expired. The clerk is working on this and it should be available again shortly.

ACTION - Clerk

Newsletter

A ‘Christmas Edition’ has been produced and distributed.

Superfast Broadband

Still no news for those people who are connected directly to Tarporley exchange.

ACTION – Clerk to contact Connecting Cheshire for update

Development/Planning/EnvironmentVillage Green

Now cleared and will be re-seeded in approximately June 2015 at a cost of £242. As this was funded by a grant of £400 from Cllr. Moore-Dutton, it was agreed to ask if we could put the rest of the grant towards other projects.

ACTION – Clerk

It was noted that although the Parish Council have replaced the steps and railings on the village green, these actually belong to Highways.

Resolved: that the Parish Council should seek assurance from Highways that they retain responsibility for the railings and steps.

ACTION – Cllr. Scott to draft letter

Hedges at UU site Sapling Lane

United Utilities have been asked to clear the entrance and keep this maintained.

Finials

A letter of thanks, cheque and 2 tins of biscuits have been received from Darnhall Parish Council who have received their finial. Our finial has been installed and looks splendid.

Resolved: that at the suggestion of Cllr. Moore-Dutton, the pattern for the finial should be lodged within the Parish Council records.

Road SafetyRS Working Group Progress

Cllr. Wilson has heard that the police commissioner will not provide any funding for a vehicle activated sign, so only one will be installed between the 30mph sign and the Red Lion pub.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to progress with local company recommended by Highways.

The head teacher would like to see a 20mph speed limit outside the school. Dave Reeves of Highways department is to do a survey of the area.

It was noted that the illuminated ‘children crossing’ signs on the approach to the school are not working.

ACTION – Clerk to write to Highways

ServicesElectricity sub-station

In progress.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to progress

Youth/Social/CommunityPlay Zone

Heads of Terms for the play area/MUGA have been received from CWAC and there was some discussion around these.

ACTION – Cllr. Scott to contact John Driver of Hibberts Solicitors regarding the issue of a licence.

WREN has requested further information.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to provide

It was noted that a letter will be sent to the school and others to request funding, early in January.

ACTiON – Cllr. Wilson

14.12.06 Planning Matters**a) Applications since the last meeting:**

14/04881/CAT – tree work at Stone Cottage, Sapling Lane

ACTION – Cllr. Scott to visit neighbours

14/05049/CAT – remove silver birch at Hunters Lodge, Sapling Lane

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to visit resident

14/04797/FUL – coffee shop/holiday let at Lower House Farm

Resolved: that no objections but the Council would like to see the use of sympathetic materials.

b) Decisions made:

14/04384/FUL – extension at 2 Whalley Drive – Permitted

14/04341/FUL – rear extension at Well House Farm - Permitted

c) Other

Resolved: that Clerk to contact Cllr. Moore-Dutton to request that the application for the caravan site at Eaton Fisheries is called before the planning committee.

It was noted that CWAC have accepted that the building at Owlscote is an agricultural building and are waiting for any further applications before re-considering.

Resolved: that the Parish Council would like a meeting with Brian Leonard to clarify how Parish Councils feed into the planning process and to improve efficiency.

ACTION – Clerk to request (copy in Cllr. Moore-Dutton and Fiona Edwards, head of Planning)

It was noted that the colour of the pointing at Oak Tree Farm has been reported to planning enforcement and we are awaiting a response.

14.12.07 Highways

Winterford Lane Footpath

Cllrs. Wilson and Lilley have attended a meeting with Weaver Vale who are still adamant that they won't pay for the work as they have no money in this year's budget.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to review prices and forward to Weaver Vale with a request that this is included in next year's budget.

14.12.08 Correspondence

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

SENDER	DATED	DETAILS	ACTION
Cheshire County Playing Fields	16/10/14	Annual Report and Newsletter	Noted
Resident	07/12/14	Email regarding layby on Oxheys Lane	Discussed
CWAC	03/12/14	Email regarding transfers due to Community Governance Review	Clerk to raise query regarding Royal Lodge
CWAC	04/12/14	Letter regarding new homes bonus	Noted

14.12.09 Finance Matters

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
Jessie Hughes VH	Hall Hire Sept/Oct	36.00		36.00
St Helens Church	Newsletter copying	49.68		49.68
Mike Wilson	Expenses	24.28		24.28
Alex Stubbs	3 rd quarter salary	426.29		426.29
HMRC	3 rd quarter PAYE	106.60		106.60
Mike Wilson	Expenses	9.00		9.00
R Wilson	Village Green clearing	242.00	48.40	290.40

14.12.10 Quality Parish Scheme

On hold.

14.12.11 External Meetings

None

14.12.12 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday, 19th January 2014 at 7.30pm in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

14.12.13 Any Other Business

Cllr. Lilley reported that there was Japanese Knotweed on Lightfoot Lane.

ACTION – Clerk to report

Cllr. Wilson requested that a letter of thanks is sent to Oulton Park for the pensioners lunch.

ACTION - Clerk

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.45pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____