

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the JESSIE HUGHES VILLAGE HALL on TUESDAY 21st February 2017 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. Jade Plumbley, Julie O'Shea, Arthur Nicholas, Simon Roberts, Neil Thompson

In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk)
 Eveleigh Moore- Dutton
 Mike Wilson
 Mr Andrew Arditti Connecting Cheshire
 Mr Aron Briggs BT

17.02.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

Resolved: that the apologies received from Cllr. Shaw, and Sellers be received and accepted.

17.02.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 17th January 2017 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr. O'Shea

Seconded: Cllr. Thompson

17.02.03 Public Speaking Time

Superfast Broadband

Connecting Cheshire have secured funding for phase 3 of the superfast broadband project. Mr Andrew Arditti of Connecting Cheshire and Mr Aronn Briggs of BT attended the meeting to give more detail of the proposed coverage and impact upon Rushton Parish.

The Parish has approximately 30 postcodes, the majority of the parishes properties fall within phase 3 (20 postcodes), these are highlighted green on the postcode table provided by Connecting Cheshire. Properties that fall within phase 3, should expect to see broadband coverage increase by Summer 2018.

If the property postcode is highlighted red, this was upgraded as part of the phase 1 project, this phase of the project is just nearing completion.

Properties with postcodes that are highlighted orange, fall in to phase 2, with expected delivery of the project during Spring/Summer 2017. These postcodes are more difficult to give a timescale to, this may be due to the proximity of the property from the cabinet or other factors that can influence broadband capabilities and therefore may run into phase 3.

The details of phase 2, which will run this year, will only be known when they are released to the market place, this is due to lots of variables such as laying new network over old, old cables, poles and infrastructure which could alter speeds.

It was disappointing that Connecting Cheshire and BT were unable to give any projected dates of the expected improvements to the internet coverage.

The Broadband project being run by Connecting Cheshire and BT is mainly funded through money back by households switching to fibre, this funding has enabled Connecting Cheshire to fund phase 3. As the number of households that take up fibre increases as does the BT revenue into the project.

Mr Arditti has agreed to attend the October Parish Council meeting, it would be beneficial to have members of the public in attendance.

A Community fibre option has been put forward to Connecting Cheshire, the council are awaiting costings.

If a member of the parish would like to become actively involved in this project, please contact the parish clerk by e-mail at rushtonclerk@aol.com

17.02.04 Matters Arising

Communication with other Parishes within Ward

- Next meeting due in April

Defibrillator for the Parish

There is currently a defibrillator at the School.

If a Defibrillator could be installed on the exterior wall of the Jessie Hughes Village Hall it would serve a large part of the community and visitors.

Funding through the British Heart Foundation is no longer available, other options to be investigated by Cllr. Thompson.

Transparency Code Funding

Transparency Code requires, financial information, parish council minutes, Standing Orders, Code of Conduct and other documentation to be freely available on a website that is easy to use.

Funding has been applied for, it is not expected that the Parish Council will receive a grant to re-design the website.

Members Budget Application

An application was completed for a grant from the CWaC Members budget. The Parish Council have received £1800 towards the cost of installing the kerb on the village green.

To undertake the full length of the kerb and include the corner, the tarmac from the kerb to the existing road has to be re-instated to Highways specification. This doubles the cost of the work. Highways have informed the Parish Council that unfortunately they are unable to pay for the road re-instatement.

It is believed that if the corner is completed correctly it will deter vehicles from running on to the verge.

Proposal:

Unless it adds greatly to the costs, the work will be done in 2 parts as we will have to find more funding. Spend only the allocated money, up to the amount awarded in the grant.

Proposed – Cllr. Thompson

Seconded – Cllr. Nicholas

17.02.05 Planning Matters

a) Applications received since the last meeting

None

b) Other

17.02.06 Highways

The implementation of the 20mph zone has been very poor. The speed signs are very small, with only one rather than two in certain places, due to poles not being in place. There's no signage on the road which would have been highly visual.

Letter to be sent to Highways to voice the Parish Councils disappointment in the implementation of the 20 mph zone and highlight the speed of vehicles outside the school

Action: Mike Wilson / Clerk

Contact Cheshire Constabulary to ask the procedure for borrowing and being trained to use a speed gun to monitor the speed of vehicles outside the primary school.

Action: Clerk

16.02.07 Reports from Working Groups**Communications**Website and Facebook

Although we have applied for funding through the Transparency fund to upgrade the Parish Council website, it is very unlikely that we will receive this. Clerk to look at local Parish Council websites and speak with Clerks and Chairs about the service they had when upgrading.

Newsletter

February edition recently circulated, thank you to the team of volunteers who deliver these to our door steps.

Development/Planning/Environment**Oulton Mill Picnic Area Project**

Mike Wilson , as chair of the Working Group, presented a progress report which shows that we now have:

1. An agreed layout
2. Approval by CWaC Highways and Planning Departments
3. Quotation for the entrance work and lay-by (being verified by existing other quotations)
4. A new Working Group with 7 members and the date for the first meeting (Tues 28th February).
5. The outline of the School Project
6. A revised financial balance which shows £9,085 commitment of the £9,982 received from Awards for All. Leaving £900 contingency.
7. Discussions being held with Colin Booth of CB Homes

Due to the need to remove the hedge section by 1st March (due to "Bird Nesting" regulations) it was proposed that the next phase of the project (lay by and entrance) be initiated by the Working Group.

RESOLVED: The next phase of the Picnic Area Project involving the creation of the lay-by and entrance features be initiated by the Working Group with quotation checked against previous quotes.

Proposal:

Further to the updated progress report, work can go ahead, once quotes have been checked against previous quotes.

Proposed – Cllr. Thompson
 Seconded- Cllr. Roberts

Road Safety

The junction of Brownhills Road and Beech Road has been raised with Highways as a concern due to the poor visibility. Highways have suggested that the landowner be contacted and asked to take the bank back to improve the visibility. An alternative option, may be the installation of a mirror.

An alternative option is to apply for a Members Budget Application, £100 for a mirror and £150 for apple trees including Cheshire varieties for the picnic area.

Proposed – Cllr. Roberts

Seconded – Cllr. O'Shea

Action : Clerk

Youth/Social/Community

Play Zone

A risk assessment was undertaken for the replacement slide, it was decided that an alternative would be more appropriate, this has been chosen.

All costs will come out of the "contingency" saved from the original grants etc.

Youth club

The Youth club remains very busy.

34-40 juniors attend and 7-11 seniors, with 65% from within the parish.

Cllr. O'Shea has done an exceptional job in running the club, ensuring there is a full rota and the members always have a fun time.

17.02.08 Local Council Award Scheme

The Parish Council is continuing to work on this. The Clerk is reviewing the information that needs to be added to the website. This is interlinked with the website, as the website is developed the information available to the public will grow and therefore the LCAS will become an achievable step.

17.02.09 External Meetings

Oulton Park liaison committee was held on January 26th 2017, Cllrs. Roberts and Shaw attended. The race agenda was highlighted but not circulated.

There will hopefully be a 2 day festival in the summer of 2018, car based with live music.

Anyone wishing to get a residents pass must do so by Wednesday 15th March. You must take with you, two photos, a utility bill or financial statement (they put post-its on all the important bits), drivers licence or passport and of course last year's residents pass.

Apex Construction, (Red Lion Development) met with Cllrs. Plumbley, O'Shea and Shaw to discuss the future development of the previous Red Lion site. Apex Construction would like to hold an open meeting with the public on prior to the next Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 21st March between 6:15-8pm, to discuss the proposals for the site which includes further development and alteration to the planning permission already granted. It is important that we try to get a good turn-out from the community. Publicity via emails & posters **Action: Mike Wilson / Clerk**

Future Meetings**17.02.10 Correspondence**

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

SENDER	DATED	DETAILS	RECOMMENDED ACTION
Highways England	Feb 17	A556 Knutsford to Bowden improvement scheme. Road closure notification	Closure 3-6 March Closure 10-13 March

17.02.11 Finance Matters

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
ChALC	Training courses for Clerk	£105.00		£105.00
NMC Print and Design	Printing costs for Feb edition of Rushton and Eaton newsletter	£131.00		£131.00
Getmapping PLC	Parish online subscription	£28.00	£5.60	£33.60
CPRE	Subscription paid by SO	£12.00		£12.00
Mr M.Wilson	Stationary an ink for picnic area presentation	£25.62		£25.62

17.02.12 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 21st March 2017 at 7.30pm in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

17.02.13 Any Other Business

Drain on Dogmore Lane, Rushton appears to be blocked, Highways have been in attendance and marked the road.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:50pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____