

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the JESSIE HUGHES VILLAGE HALL on Tuesday 20th February 2018 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs. Jade Plumbley, Arthur Nicholas, Amy Markham and Emma Leslie

In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Paul Healey, Brian Oldham, Cllr. Moore-Dutton

18.02.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

Resolved: that the apologies from Cllrs. Corradine, Thompson and Shaw be received and accepted.

18.02.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the 16th January 2018 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr. Nicholas

Seconded: Cllr. Leslie

18.02.03 Public Speaking Time

Clarification of the role that the Clerk plays with working groups and that she liaises with the Highways Department on behalf of the working groups and the Parish Council.

Vehicle Activated Sign, the cheapest supplier is Morelock Signs Ltd. A representative from Morelock has visited the site to meet members of the Road Safety Working Group, during the meeting data downloading, the time the device can be switch on/off and technical spec of the sign was discussed.

A preferred location for the VAS was chosen by Morelock Signs Limited, this still needs to be discussed with the landowner and with the Highways Dept.

18.02.04 Matters Arising

Members Budget application update

It has been confirmed that the members budget that the Parish Council obtained can be used for Road Safety issues but does not specifically need to be used for the renewal of the village green kerb.

Proposal

A Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) is being installed on Lower Lane.

Members of the Parish Council and RSWG have worked with Ian Lovatt of Cheshire West and Chester Council Highways Department and with members of the Planning Department.

- The VAS would need to be positioned off Highways Lane, with the permission of the landowner.
- As it will be positioned on private land a legal agreement between the PC and landowner will be required.
- The Planning Dept have confirmed this is can occur under permitted development rules
- The VAS can be positioned in either direction on Lower Lane, but best, capturing vehicles travelling down Lower Lane.
- Around 70-80 metres detection length is required to capture the speed data.

To set the budget for the year 2018-19

The Budget for 2018-19 was looked at, and agreed for the year 2018-19

Proposed – Cllr. Nicholas

Seconded – Cllr. Markham

Eaton and Rushton's Application for Best Kept Village 2018

This year's entry for has arrived and all councillors are eager for the Parish to enter. The documents have been circulated by e-mail but cannot be opened. Once files can be opened the details of the competition can be sent around by e-mail as the entry date is prior to the next Parish Council meeting.

Clerks Hours

During Quarter Three the clerk has logged hours worked against hours paid. The clerk is paid for 4 hours a week which is 52 hours a quarter, during quarter three the clerk noted a minimum of 74 hours, many hours go un logged as telephone calls, quick e-mails and the odd half hour don't get included. The Parish Council will assess whether the Hours of the clerk can be increased when assessing the budget. To be determined in March meeting.

Addressing future Planning Applications

During 2017 the Parish Council received 13 planning applications, which resulted in 7 extra ordinary meeting to discuss the applications to ensure they were adequately advertised to the public. The Parish Clerk has also looked at the number of applications that received public interest or members of the public wishing to make addresses about the application. To enable planning applications to be considered in a timely fashion the parish Clerk has taken advice from Cheshire Association of local Councils (ChALC).

In future the Parish Council meeting agenda, under planning applications received will read;

'Any Planning application, received since publication of the agenda'

Any planning applications received after the publication of the agenda will be posted on either the website or the noticeboard 24hrs before the meeting.

As long as advertised on the noticeboard the planning application can be discussed in the meeting and if a small planning application could be discussed by e-mail rather than calling a meeting.

If a meeting is required, the Chair can call it or two or more councillors. Meetings will always be held for complex applications or ones that are felt may be controversial

procedures for disposal of paperwork received from previous clerk. The legal timescales for keeping planning applications, financial papers etc. has now been received from ChALC, to assist in the disposal of unnecessary paperwork the Clerk was given permission to buy a paper shredder

To receive an update from APEX on the development of the former Red Lion site. The development work has now commenced. There is a 6m drop in topography and significant volumes of clay on site.

The timescale for the development is 12-18 months, with the first two properties hopefully being complete October and December respectively. There has been a lot of local interest in the development. The utilities on the site may include renewable heat pumps.

With regards to the speed of Eaton Lane, when the pub was in use the road was 60mph with two entrances, and then reduced to a 40mph speed limit. Reducing the speed of the road wouldn't necessarily help sell the houses, by changing the speed of the road it may increase the volume of street furniture. Advertising the entrances to the village may go further to enhance the nature and beauty of the countryside and help reduce the speed rather than reliance on reducing the speed limit.

18.02.05 Planning Matters**a) Applications received since the last meeting**

None

18.02.06 Highways

Lower Lane is scheduled to be re-surfaced. Scottish Power also plan to undertake works on Lower Lane to place the overhead cable underground, Lindsey Worrall has contacted Scottish Power for an update as to when works will begin

Action- Liaise with SP and Highways and Clerk

Cllr. Thompson

Potholes on Lower Lane. Reported numerous times by Clerk and residents and Eaton. Highways have marked out the worst potholes for infilling. Questions have been asked as to whether the section of Lower Lane/Hickhurst Lane will be re-surfaced once Scottish Power have undertaken the above works, this has not been clarified.

Oulton Mill Lane. Water is again running across the road, the problem is under the road. Highways were approached last year, need to address situation again. Highways willing to attend a meeting, they have attending the site and suggested a meeting once the levels receded.

Action- liaise with Highways and Landowner to arrange meeting

Clerk

Park Gate Cottage, Dogmore Lane, the side of the Road has been filled with tarmac, when it rains it covers half the road as it has no drainage. Highways have been contacted.

Action –liaise with Highways

Clerk

Brownhills Junction, Highways confirmed that they would re-mark the white lines. No details given as to a timeline.

Action – Liaise with Highways

Clerk

20mph zone extension, assessment was to be undertaken in September. Final details are due in April 2018.

Action – liaise with Highways

Clerk

Royal lane drainage, drain due to be replaced on 19th March 2018.

Action – liaise with Highways

Clerk

18.02.07 Reports from Working Groups

Communications

Superfast Broadband

Following the presentation from Voneus Limited Cllr. Thompson is determining whether there are enough interested customers to ensure the project can go ahead.

Action – Liaise with Voneus

Cllr. Thompson

Development/Planning/Environment

Oulton Mill Picnic Area Project.

The picnic area is starting to look untidy, councillors need to regularly visit to ensure litter is kept to a minimum and the bin regularly emptied.

Cllr. Thompson is the new Chair of the working group. During the winter months Cllrs. Plumbley, Shaw and Nicholas will regularly check the picnic area.

Once the weather warms up and dries out further work will begin on the picnic area.

Road Safety

The next meeting of the Road safety working group will be held on 6th March.

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.

20mph zone

The Parish Council and Mike Wilson prepared a proposal for the original rectangle of Lower Lane; Winterford Lane; Edgewell Lane; & Eaton Lane (between the two) to be included as a 20mph zone for Highways consideration. Highways Department have confirmed that the proposal will be assessed, with any improvements occurring in year three of the 20mph project. The equipment that had been placed outside the Jessie to assess traffic failed, this assessment will reoccur, and the results known during April 2018, any works will be carried out during 2018-19 financial year.

Cross

The Road Safety Team have prepared a series of options including signs, road markings and vehicle activated signs. The Highways department will assess the proposal and make suggestions in due course. Representatives of the Highways Dept. have recommended that the road marking should be re-painted, no dates have been given for this.

Eaton Lane

Ideally the speed of vehicles using Eaton Lane needs to be reduced to persuade vehicle owners to use the by-pass. Speed management and traffic calming measures could be used to reduce the speed on Eaton

Lane and include Islands or interactive signage. With both, speed calming measures or the speed limit reduction, the Parish Council would need to give a financial input into any project.

Beech Lane Junction with Brownhills Rd

The junction requires signage to improve safety. Highways have assessed the junction and will re-paint the lines to improve the visibility. No dates given.

Royal Lane

A new drain is required at the bottom of Royal Lane to prevent flooding, Highways have scheduled works to be complete by the end of March 2018.

Youth/Social/Community

Play Zone

Remains very busy.

Youth club

A safeguarding incident occurred at Youth group, the management team have procedures in place to correctly handle the incident and ensure that such incidents do not re-occur.

18.02.09 External Meetings

18.02.10 Correspondence

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

SENDER	DATED	DETAILS	RECOMMENDED ACTION
Resident	18/01/18	Tarporley High School bus dropping children off at the post box. 2 near misses have occurred due to this. Bus driver spoken with, not able to drop off at Elm Tree Court and turn around due to parents parking inappropriately.	Issue resolved
Highways	22/01/18	Closure of Oulton mill Lane on 5 th March for 3 days for works to be carried out by Gallaghers	Circulate for information
Resident	29/01/18	Flooding on Brownhills Rd causing road to be impassable. Highways contacted, works carried out to resolve issue.	Issue resolved.
Resident	16/02/18	A dog has bitten an adult. Police contacted, and owners cautioned.	For information

18.02.11 Finance Matters

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

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
ChALC	Year end audit training	£75.00		£75.00
ChALC	Planning Part 1 and2	£65.00		£65.00
NMC Design and Print	Feb Newsletter printing costs	£131.00		£131.00
Get Mapping PLC	Parish Online subs.	£15.00	£3.00	£18.00

18.02.12 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th February 2018 at 7:30pm in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall

18.02.13 Any Other Business

The AGM will be held jointly between the Jessie Hughes Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council this May.

The Jessie Hughes Village Hall will be celebrating ten years since it re-opened, this years village day will help to celebrate this special occasion.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:25pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

DRAFT