

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the JESSIE HUGHES VILLAGE HALL on Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. Neil Thompson, Mike Wilson, Graham Sime, Suzanne Hinchcliffe, Amy Markham

In Attendance: Bert Platt, Paul Healey, Lindsey Worrall (Clerk)

20.01.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

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

20.01.02 Minutes

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

Proposed: Cllr. Wilson

Seconded: Cllr. Sime

20.01.03 Public Speaking Time

Members of the public and Councillor Wilson met the Conservation officer to discuss the Planning Application at the Old School House, an in-depth local history of the village was given to the Conservation Officer. The Officer will now prepare a report for the planning Officer. Additional details have been requested from the developer.

The development of Eaton Green is now near complete, it has been raised that when finished it is hoped that the developers re-instate the verge which has been used for vehicle parking.

There are not many pavements within the village, beyond Rock Cottage heading to Risedon the hedge of the bungalow has overgrown and the footpath is not passable. The property appears to be on the market. A letter to be sent to the owners or the estate agent to ask for the hedge to be cut to enable use of the footpath.

Our Footpath Officer (Paul Healey), has walked quite a few footpaths within the Parish and will endeavour to continue this within this year and report issues back to the Parish Council.

20.01.04 To Review the Budget for 2020-2021

The budget had been prepared and circulated prior to the meeting, the budget was prepared using the actual spends during 2018/19 financial year and the predicted spends for the financial year 2019/20. Small alterations were made during the meeting to the General Maintenance budget and Development Budget. A vote then was taken.

Resolved – To accept the budget for 2020/2021 with the alterations discussed.

Proposed - All Councillors present in favour.

20.01.05 To Review and Accept Precept for 2010-2021

The precept that the Parish Council received for the year 2019/20 was £5,100, this is equivalent to £21.51 per Band D equivalent property. After a discussion the councillors all agreed that an increase in the precept would enable the Parish Council to undertake further valuable work within the Parish during the year. An increase of 4.6% to £5,500 was agreed upon, this is equivalent to £22.49 per Band D property.

Resolved - To accept a Precept Increase of 4.6% to £5,500

Proposed - All Councillors present in favour.

20.01.06 Matters Arising

Village Design Statement (VDS)

The Team that have developed the Village Design Statement will attend the February meeting of Rushton Parish Council to give an overview of the roles and responsibilities following the implementation of the VDS and liaison with the Parish Council.

Village Green Wall Repairs

A quote has been received for the repair to the damage that occurred to the wall of the Village Green following the Road Traffic Accident. The quote is;
£803.00 plus VAT

This quote is sizable due to the traffic management element required to ensure the repairs can be undertaken safely.

The quote has been sent to the haulage company, they are happy and have asked for the repair to be undertaken.

Unfortunately to undertake the repairs their contact details are needed for the invoice, the Parish Clerk has repeatedly sent e-mails and telephoned leaving messages, there has not received a response since informing them of the cost of the repair.

Clerk to now instruct the insurance company to undertake the repair and try to reclaim cost from the haulage company.

The Drays Coffee Shop, Brown Signs

Mr Kelly attended the November meeting to update the Parish Council on obtaining Brown Signs to advertise the coffee shop.

Mr and Mrs Kelly approached Mr Ian Lovett of the Highways Dept to discuss suitable locations for Brown signs, a member of Highways visited the coffee shop, but no location was identified.

- A sign is now proposed to be placed at the private property of Eaton Rise, pointing down Lower Lane,
- the sign will be 1 x 2 ft in size,
- it should add to the village rather than detract from it.
- This would be an arrangement between a landowner and sign owner.
- Highways do not have any issues with this as the sign would not be on land owned by Highways
- A 'mock up' sign will be made to see what it will look like on the site.

Road Policing Unit Request and Speed Assessments

Following the visit by PSCO Kenneth Williamson at the November Meeting & the meeting on 18th Nov with Highways, a request was submitted to the Roads Policing Unit. The Traffic Management Officer of Cheshire Constabulary has visited and undertaken an assessment. The response to the Parish Council has been that, the road is narrow and winding, with not many properties with vehicles probably edging over 40mph. There is no suitable location for the camera van.

A meeting has also been requested with the Highways Road Safety Engineer Dave Reeves to discuss speed assessments, 20mph zone and traffic calming options.

Road Traffic Data

In the first two years of having the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on Eaton Lane the data showed that 40% of vehicles were speeding and there was an annual increase of traffic of around 4%. For the same weeks in January 2019 and again in 2020 the traffic data has been analysed, it has showed that for both years 25% of vehicles were speeding and there hasn't been a noticeable increase in vehicles using the road, this may be attributable to the temporary traffic lights and plant that have occasionally caused slowing on the road at the Red Lion Development site.

The highest speeds are recorded in the early mornings and late at night, the highest recorded speed is 70mph with the highest average speed being 60mph.

19.11.07 Planning Matters

1- To note planning decisions.

19/02876/FUL

Location- Willow House, Eaton Green, Eaton, CW6 9YN

Proposal – Addition of three dormer windows to front elevation to second floor.

Approved

19/01150/FUL

Location – Sapling Cottage, Sapling Lane, Eaton, CW6 9AE

Proposal: Demolition of existing garage and replacement with two storey side extension and single storey projection to rear. Erection of outbuilding and proposed gabion basket retaining garden wall

Location

Withdrawn

19/00309/FUL

Location – Spinney Cottage, Lower Lane, Eaton, CW6 9AN

Proposal – Extension to existing cottage and construction of garage and stable

Approved

19/03396/FUL

Location – Land at Winterford Lane

Proposal – Two box isolation stable

Approved

19/03957/FUL

Location -Stone Cottage, Sapling Lane, Eaton, CW6 9AE

Proposal Rendering of upper sections of existing front and side elevations

Approved

2- To consider response to planning applications received**20/00164/FUL**

Location -Oxheys Farm, Oxheys Lane, Rushton, CW6 9AT

Proposal Temporary agricultural farm workers dwelling.

The Parish Council has **No Objection** to this Planning Application –

Proposed – Cllr. Sime

Seconded – Cllr. Markham

20/00139/FUL

Location -24 Winterford Lane, Eaton, CW6 9AP

Proposal 2 storey side extension and single storey front extension and alteration to the porch.

The Parish Council **Supports** this Planning Application –

Proposed – Cllr. Markham

Seconded – Cllr. Sime

20.01.08 Highways**Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings**

Cllrs Wilson & Leslie have compiled a list of the important issues which remain outstanding with Highways. This list has been presented and discussed, and modifications made. A meeting was held on Monday 18th November Between Highways Jerry Gibbs and Ian Lovett, along with *Cllr Emma Leslie, Cllr Mike Wilson & Ward Councillor Eveleigh Moore-Dutton.*

1. Proposals suggested by the Parish Council & Responses from Highways

a. Speed Limits (see marked up map used).

- i. The 20mph limit currently on the Village Green, should be moved out to where the existing 30mph limit is situated (the originally agreed position).
- ii. The 30mph limit in i. above should be moved out to the current "Eaton Village Sign" towards Cotebrook.
- iii. The 20mph limit currently sited before the Village Hall should be put out to where the current 30mph limit changes to 50mph (at the bottom of the hill; the originally agreed position).
- iv. The 30mph limit in ii. Should go out to the "Eaton Village Sign" at the hill-top
- v. The current 20mph sign 50m below the school (Lower Lane), should be moved out to existing 30mph signs at the far end of Whalley Drive.
- vi. The 30mph signs from v. to be moved to junction with Dogmore Lane.

vii. Response by Highways

The proposal was understood by Highways but involved many issues. It was agreed that RPC will contact Dave Reeves (Road Safety Engineer) of Highways Ellesmere Port office to arrange a visit and possible re-assessment.

ACTION: RPC to arrange meeting with Dave Reeves

b. Actions to try and reduce the number and / or speed of vehicles using Eaton as a "rat run" between the Alvanley Arms (A49) and the "Red Fox" (A49/A51).

i. Village Approaches (see examples)

On Eaton Lane and Royal Lane ("Eaton" Sign Board) the Parish Council would like to create "You Are Entering a Rural Village" structures with flower beds, beware signs; gated impression. The structure would be fastened to the "Eaton" village signs and not require digging out for supports etc.

ii. Response by Highways

No initial objection. Various forms are now online for "addition of street furniture" etc and RPC were advised to look-into this and before submitting, send a draft to them for comment

ACTION: RPC to complete documentation and submit with layout etc to Highways for comment.

iii. Road Marking

Existing & new road marking e.g. "dragons-teeth" need to be investigated and renewed where appropriate.

iv. Response by Highways

This can be looked at after the decisions are made ref new speed limit positions.

2. Other Issues

a. Enforcement

Cheshire Police to be involved in enforcing existing speed limits with mobile camera units and speed guns.

Smaller Issues requiring attention

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.

Action – Liaise with landowner and Highways

Clerk

On Sapling Lane the Drainage system require attention, Highways have attended previously but do not seem to rectify the issues. There are two grids that are both too high, there is a blockage in the drain by the sandstone wall. If it rains slightly the water can drain away, in heavy rain it cannot.

To be reported to Highways but combined with the flooding issue on Dogmore Lane, as both issues have been reported numerous times. Residents can attend with Highways to explain the issues on site. This was reported to Highways on 26th November 2019 and again on 22nd January 2020.

20.01.09 Reports from Working Groups Communications**Oulton Mill Picnic Area Project.**

School Project – Birds Bugs & Butterflies project was completed in July with Eaton Primary School.

The project will be repeated with Eaton Primary School in Spring 2020, a meeting has been arranged with the Head Teacher.

The Tesco Grant for the Bees, Bugs and Butterflies Project has a balance of £412.66 which could finance more work on the project in the coming 12 months.

Immediate Plans

- The entire picnic area needs to be mown, it is currently too wet.
- A two-metre path will be created around the perimeter so the nettles in the hedgerow can be dealt with next year, creating a walking path to visitors.
- The 12 team has been created
- The duty of members of the 12 team will be to select one month a year and during that month they visit the Picnic Area once per week, checking for mis-use; litter (empty bins if necessary) and reporting any concerns to Cllr Wilson.
- The first meeting of the 12 team will be on Sunday 26th January on site.

The original Grant balance is £1,832.83

Youth/Social/Community Play Zone Project

The Sound of Music fund raiser raised £960, to be divided between the Playzone (£600) and Youth Club (£360)

New signs have been installed to deter inappropriate waste in the bins.

With some of the 52-team resigning, volunteers are required.

Anyone wishing to join the 52 team, please contact the Clerk, Lindsey Worrall by e-mail at rushtonclerk@aol.com

Youth Club

The revamped YC with a new Leader Team is settling down

Mr and Mrs O'Shea left the management team at the Christmas party, thank you to them for all the hard work undertaken over the years involved in the Youth Club

The Sound of Music fund raiser raised £960, to be divided between the Playzone (£600) and Youth Club (£360)

Village Fun Day

This year's village fun day will be on Sunday 6th September, it may be that this year the fun day could involve Eaton Primary School.

Defibrillator Course

The latest defibrillator course was held on Friday 17th Jan with 30 people attending. Kathryn Telford the trainer was brilliant. It is proposed that a fee of £25 go to her for each course to pay for maintenance of her own equipment. Thanks to Neil & Mary for being there. Agreed that we make this an annual event at this time of year. All attendees on a "Group Email" will receive a reminder publication from BHF. An exit bucket raised £40 which has been sent to British Heart Foundation.

Mock Interviews at Tarporley High School.

Propose thanks to be given in the Newsletter to ex councillor David Lilley for arranging this with Eaton residents giving up 1 to 2 days of their time on this annual event.

Oulton Park Lunch

This was again well attended by Eaton residents for a splendid lunch and entertainment supplied by Eaton Primary School choir with carols. Thanks to David Lilley for arranging lists and transport.

20.01.10 Correspondence

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

Reporter	Date	Description	Action
Member of public	21.11.19	Dog walkers not cleaning up after their dogs	Newsletter article to be written
Cheshire Constabulary	23.12.19	Speed check assessment of Eaton Lane	Circulate and discuss in meeting
Highways	14.01.2020	Speed assessment review, Road clarification.	Circulate and discuss in meeting

20.01.11 Finance Matters

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
CWaC	Youth Club Rent 1 st Aug – 31 st Dec 2019	£180.00		£180.00
Miss L R Worrall	Q 3 Expenses	£19.98	£3.99	£23.97
Miss L R Worrall	Q3 Salary	£832.52		£832.52
Mr Adam Keppel-Green	Website Hosting Fee	£40.00		£40.00
JHVI	Hall Hire – Nov 2019	£19.00		£19.00

• Income

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
Rushton PC	Youth Group Rent 1 st Aug– 31 Dec 2019 contribution	£60.00		£60.00
Rushton PC	Sound of Music Donation Youth Club	£360.00		£360.00
Rushton PC	Sound of Music Donation Play Zone	£600.00		£600.00
Rushton PC	JHVI Contribution to Newsletter printing costs November 2019	£65.50		£65.50

20.01.12 External Meeting

20.01.13 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th February 2020 at 7:30pm in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall

20.01.14 Any Other Business

A meeting between Cllr. Hinchcliffe and Tarporley War Memorial Hospital has been undertaken to discuss the provisions and Needs of the NHS in Eaton and Rushton and the funding streams that are available to help facilitate these.

The Eaton team are running a Rock Pop & Hotpot Night at Tarporley Community Centre on Saturday 23rd February when they aim to make well over £1,000 for the hospital.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:20pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

DRAFT