

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall**  
**on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs. Neil Thompson, Graham Sime, Phil Hodgson and Olga Vertija

**In Attendance:** Eveleigh Moore-Dutton (Ward Councillor), Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Mike Wilson  
 Charlies Hunt

**17.01.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests**

**Resolved:** that the apologies from Cllr. Shaw, Hinchliffe, Leslie be received and accepted

**17.01.02 Minutes**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to be agreed and signed.

**Proposed:** Cllr. Hodgson

**Seconded:** Cllr. Sime

**17.01.03 Public Speaking Time**

**Mike Wilson was present and raised the following points for attention**

1. Local police officers PC Paul Gilchrest and PCSO Jorge Ferreira have visited him to discuss how they can get more involved as this hasn't happened much since Mike left the council. It was agreed that they would come to the March Parish Council meeting.
2. Community Speed Watch – what progress has there been? Cllrs Thompson – courses were put on hold due to Covid but our understanding is they are now running again. We will put this on the agenda for future meetings to discuss. We'll look at what PC Paul Gilchrest sends through – we believe it requires purchase/access to a speed camera - need to understand options/costs and then funding routes.
3. Repositioning of 20mph speed limits – what progress has there been? Cllr Thompson – we contact highways on a regular basis for updates. Latest position is they are looking to take forward some of the changes to the layout as we have requested (timescales still unknown).
4. Speed data from VAS – what is happening with this? Cllr Sime will be taking this on and will contact Brian Oldham and Paul Healey about how to get the data.
5. Speed Camera – can the village club together to buy one? Cllr Thompson – we need to find out costs of camera and we can include this in discussions about speed reduction measures.
6. Police monthly drop ins – aren't well attended and so could they go to quarterly. Cllr Thompson – proposal seems sensible.
7. Coronation – are there any activities being arranged and could the Council work jointly with the Jessie Hughes Hall committee to organise. Cllr Thompson – no plans currently but can be discussed at Parish Council meetings. Village Hall committee can make contact if they are planning activities.
8. Police officers aren't aware of what is happening in the village, so will be added to the email distribution list for village events – Cllr. Thompson – sounds a sensible approach.
9. Village entrances – what progress has been made on this? Cllr. Thompson – Cllrs Lesli/Hinchliffe/Vertija are working on options.
10. Speeding through village. – there was talk of doing this, what progress has been made, is there a team of councillors looking at this? Cllr Thompson - We don't have a team of councillors currently looking at this specifically as we do not have capacity to do this. It is however covered where applicable/when raised in the monthly meetings.
11. Village Hospital – a lot of people in the village are upset at the lack of communication from the hospital on the changes that are taking place – Cllrs mentioned that the Hospital representative had come to the Parish Council meeting to present the position

Charles Hunt responded to Mike Wilson's comment about the Hospital with the point that the Hospital had made effort to communicate including coming to the Council meetings and also arranging and publishing their AGM but very few people turned up.

**17.01.04**    **To review the draft budget for 2023-24**  
**To review and agree the precept request**

**Resolved:** that the Precept increase was agreed to be 4.7%

**Proposed:** Cllr. Hodgson

**Seconded:** Cllr. Sime

**17.01.05**    **Planning Matters**

**1- To note planning decisions received.**

**None**

**2 -To consider response to planning applications received**  
**Applications received since the last meeting.**

**22/02503/FUL**

**Location** - Land at Oulton Mill Lane Rushton, CW6 8BE

**Proposal** - Engineering works and construction of hardstanding associated with the agricultural development approved under 21/00145/AGR- (retrospective)

Parish Council will make comments once further details and better quality maps are available from the planning officer who has been contacted by both the Clerk and Ward Councillor for updates.

**22/02768/FUL**

**Location** - Land at Spinney Cottage, Lower Lane, Eaton

**Proposal** – Construction of One new dwelling

Further detail required before Parish Council can make comments and no further updates/information had been made available at the time of the meeting.

**22/04683/CAT**

**Location** – 19 Edgewell Lane, Eaton

**Proposal** – pollard of an Acer tree to let more light in.

**Resolved:** Parish Comment: No objections

**Proposed** – Cllr. Hodgson

**Seconded** – Cllr. Sime

**17.01.06**    **Highways**

**Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings**

a. Highways Issues

- 1) Planters and village entry signs on top has been discussed and options for designs will be prepared by Cllrs. No proposals/options available to discuss – rollover to next meeting.

**Actions – prepare proposal Cllrs Sime, Leslie, Hinchliffe and Vertiga**

- 2) Purchase sign for direction to M6 north and South for placement near village green – rollover to next meeting.

**Action** – Select sign of. preference **Cllrs. Sime, Leslie and Vertija** and Clerk to speak with Highways regarding licences required.

b. Road Safety Matters

- 1) 20 MPH signs - Clerk has contacted Highways for an update on the 20mph signpost positions, their last correspondence was that new designs had been put in for assessment.

**Action** – Clerk to follow up with Highways as to timescales and next steps.

**17.01.07 Reports from Working Groups Communications**

**Newsletter**

Editor role is still vacant. If anyone would like to now take on the role of newsletter editor, please do contact the Clerk, Lindsey via at e-mail at [rushtonclerk@aol.com](mailto:rushtonclerk@aol.com)

Mike Wilson is kindly continuing to assist with the preparation of the latest edition of the newsletter – thanks to Mike for his continued support.

**Oulton Mill Picnic Area Project.**

The Picnic Area bin has now been replaced and the emptying of bin is being taken care of by Street Scene. The site is obviously being used regularly.

It was agreed that we would not pursue the Mersey Forest project for tree planting any further at this point. We would however like to plant the wildflower meadow again this year and will look to grow the number of trees in the Orchard later this year.

Anyone wishing to volunteer with the picnic area project, please contact the Clerk Lindsey at, [rushtonclerk@aol.com](mailto:rushtonclerk@aol.com)

**Youth/Social/Community**

**Play Zone Project**

Cllr. Vertija has now taken over as Cllr supporting the Playzone activity and thanks to Mike Wilson for the continued work he is doing in supporting the Playzone and Cllr. Vertija.

A working party will be organised in March.

Quotes have been requested for replacement signs.

### **Eaton Primary School conversion to Academy**

Eaton Primary School has converted to an Academy as part of Tarporley High School and Sixth Form College Multi-Academy Trust.

The current agreement between Eaton Primary School and Rushton Parish Council in respect of the MUGA requires renewal which will now be between the Parish Council and the Academy.

Cllr Thompson provided update the agreement is underdoing final review with solicitor and is expected to be ready to sign shortly. Ongoing liaison between the School Academy, Parish Council and legal teams will occur until the new agreement can be implemented.

**Action** – liaison until new agreement can be put in place.

**Cllr. Thompson**

### **Matters Arising**

#### **Jubilee events**

Jubilee Mugs – Cllr. Thompson provided an update that the mugs have arrived and are being distributed out to those who have ordered them. There are some still available to buy at £6 per mug. Please contact the Clerk if interested.

Tree Planting at the Picnic area – Mersey Forest Trust provided an updated proposal with slightly reduce number of trees but the Cllrs. present felt that there would be too many trees for such a small area and so will not take the project any further at this stage. Instead, we would prefer to pursue a smaller amount of planting, preferably a number of fruit trees to expand the current Orchard. This will be looked at for the next planting period during winter 2023.

#### **17.01.08 Correspondence**

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

<b>Reporter</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Action</b>
Solicitors and councillors	16/03/22 onwards	MUGA agreement update	Responded and Circulate to councillors
Mersey Forest	23/09/22 onwards	Organising and meeting to discuss planting of trees	Circulated
Councillors and Member of public	12/12/2022	Sign on green become broken	Circulated
UU	23/12/2022	Update from UU	Circulated
Member of public	10/01/2023	Planning for AED training	Circulated

#### **17.01.09 Finance Matters**

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

<b>PAYEE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>NET (£)</b>	<b>VAT (£)</b>	<b>TOTAL (£)</b>
JHVI	Hall hire Nov 22	£39		£39
Miss L R Worrall	Q3 Salary	£942		£942
Miss L R Worrall	Q3 Expenses	£48.94	£9.81	58.75
Cllr. N. Thompson	Q3 Expenses			£163.18

#### **17.01.10 External Meeting**

Cllr. Hodgson - Broadband – Constructive meeting held with Edward Timpson on 9<sup>th</sup> December who is applying for funding to help remaining areas of Parish connect to faster Broadband.

#### **17.01.11 Any Other Business**

Cllr. Sime – could we offer our thanks to Oulton Park for the Fantastic Christmas dinner they arranged for the older generation of the village. Could the clerk please write a letter of thanks.

#### **17.01.12 Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st February 2023 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

**The meeting closed at 8:45pm.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_