

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall
on Tuesday 18th July 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. Ed Shaw, Suzanne Hinchliffe, Graham Sime, Phil Hodgson and Olga Vertija

In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Charles Hardy (Ward Councillor)

23.07.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

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

Resolved: that Cllr. Shaw has a personal interest in Planning application 22/02503/FUL.

23.07.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 20th June 2023 to be agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Shaw

Seconded: Cllr. Vertija

23.07.03 Public Speaking Time

Charles met with John Dwyer Police and crime Commissioner, who said the main issues on the roads of Cheshire is the speed of the roads especially within rural settings. CWaC have also confirmed there is very little they can do to alter the speed limits on many of the roads within the county.

A meeting has been held to discuss potholes with Highways, communication is not sufficient to the general public regarding how long repairs will take.

The JCB Pro pot hole repairer is no longer on hire, alternatives are being assessed.

Works have recently been undertaken on Hall Lane, Hickhurst Lane and more patching work will take place on Royal lane in the near future.

23.07.05 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)

New plans have been received, the plans are significantly clearer than previous plans, they indicate the datum point to determine the bund size

Photographs of the site have also been received and it is the understanding of the Parish Council that the trailers will be removed from the site.

The Parish Council has No Objection to this Planning Application –
 Proposed – Cllr. Vertija

Seconded – Cllr. Hinchcliffe

The parish Council would like native hedging to be utilised along the bunding area and any other areas of the site where hedging and trees are to be planted.

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, the boundary of the development needs clarification to determine whether this is occurring within the garden or within open countryside. Clerk has asked for clarification from the Planning officer and received a vague response, once clarification is sort the Parish Council will make comments.

23/00961/LDC

Location - Land at Spinney Cottage, Lower Lane, Eaton

Proposal – Use of land to rear of Spinney Cottage as garden

Guidance required as these two planning applications have bearing on each other. Is there a minimum footprint that a property should have as designated outdoor space/garden. Planning application currently has the drive coming in along the existing drive to Spinney Cottage and passing along the rear of both properties dividing the gardens but this application shows an area designated which could be utilised as driveway to the proposed new property.

Parish Council would like to know if there is a minimum garden space required for a planning applications.

There is a restricted covenant on the land, is this being removed to enable the land to be used as garden.

A planning statement has been received. Clerk to e-mail Planning officer.

23.076.06 Highways

Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings

a. Highways Issues

Planters and village entry signs Cllr Hinchcliffe circulated images designs that could be used for the village entrances. All councillors have looked at these and discussion held.

The design and pricing of both the gates and signs has been obtained, before going ahead with this project the Parish Council has liaised with Highways.

Jerry Gibbs of Highways has clarified the licences required for working on highways land. Highways confirmed that Rushton Parish Council own the signs and can update, maintain them as long as appropriate licences in place to do so.

An article has been prepared for the August newsletter to show the designs of the gates and signs to enable the parish to comment.

Actions – prepare proposal and continue liaison with Highways Cllrs Sime, Leslie, Hinchcliffe and Vertiga.

Purchase sign for direction to M6 north and South for placement near village green – Cllr. Leslie has undertaken a lot of work on this and selected the most appropriate sign for purchase.

Action – Select sign of. preference **Cllrs. Sime, Leslie and Vertija**

b. Road Safety Matters

The Parish Council are awaiting feedback and clarification from highways on several matters

1. 20 MPH signs - Highways have confirmed that the 20mph sign on Royal Lane will be move to incorporate the Jessie Hughes Village Hall. The Clerk has asked for a timescales for this work. The 20mph on Eaton Lane is in the incorrect location, going from 20mph in the centre of the village to 30mph and then 40mph heading towards Cotebrook, it is apparent this does not occur in other villages and the Clerk has asked for the 20mph to be extended.
2. Oulton Mill Lane. The ditch on the left as driving to Cotebrook overflows during inclement weather. This has been reported to Highways on numerous occasions. Highways have undertaken some maintenance works to place a timber headwall and infill with some gravel, the drain is broken under the road.
The site has been inspected by Highways Officer's previously with assurance that actions would be taken to resolve the issue. A Letter was sent to Chief Exec of CWaC, response received and a meeting undertake on site involving all the land owners who are affected during bad weather. Lewis Williams has promised a new drain will be installed on site to prevent flooding before autumn 2023.
3. VAS On Lower Lane – was a community initiative to slow traffic on a narrow lane with no footpaths next to the busy primary school, unfortunately the VAS is on private land and now been removed, the unit has been taken down and safely stored and the pole has been removed by contractors with 'Street licence' to work on a Highway. The Parish Council are working with the Ward Councillor, Highways and residents to find another suitable location on private land to relocate the VAS.
An article will be placed in the August newsletter to give the residents an update on the relocation process.
4. The Oulton Mill Lane sign, located by the Picnic area was hit and damaged in the autumn, the damage was reported to Highways at the time but no actions taken. The sign has now disappeared. Clerk to chase Highways with regards to the replacement.
5. Hall lane, the speed signs are facing the wrong way and need turning correctly.

23.0.07 Reports from Working Groups Communications

Newsletter

Articles for the August newsletter are due by the 26th July

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

Oulton Mill Picnic Area Project.

The Picnic Area bin has now being emptied by Street Scene. The site is obviously being used regularly.

Cllr. Shaw trimmed the hedges on 16th June, for road safety reasons, he has also dug up several sacks of ragwort.

Nick Rayner mows the grass every two weeks

Thank you to both for your continued support in keeping this community asset looking beautiful for the parish and visitors from afar.

A member of the gardening group has asked whether any tree saplings would be required for the picnic area. Planting trees on the picnic area, does need the involvement and permission of the residents who live closest to it, having worked closely with Mersey Forest to look at ways to increase the trees on the picnic area it was decided that the picnic area was best managed as it is. Thank you for the very kind gesture.

Anyone wishing to volunteer with the picnic area project, please contact the Clerk Lindsey at, rushtonclerk@aol.com

Youth/Social/Community

Play Zone Project

The backboard of basket ball net has become damaged.

There is likely to be another small summer clean of the Play Zone

There have been reports of dogs fouling near the Play Zone and also on the lanes and nearby fields. There is a bin provided.

Actions

Cllr. Hodgson to contact vet to get a report for the newsletter to detail the effects of dog poo on cows and sheep, the bacterium can cause livestock to abort their young.

Cllrs. Shaw and Hodgson to contact NFU to get signs to put up to highlight the risks of dog fouling.

Matters Arising

23.07.08 Correspondence

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

| Reporter | Date | Description | Action | |
|-----------------------------|----------|---|--|--|
| United utilities | 26/06/23 | Update on the Vyrnwy Aqueduct Modernisation programme | Circulated | |
| Planning application update | 30/06/23 | 22/02768/FUL land at the Spinney- planning Statement from David Nicholas Taylor | Circulated | |
| CWaC | 01/07/23 | Full Council will meet on 13 th July to elect new Chief exec (Delyth Curtis) | circulated | |
| Highways | 01/07/23 | Road Closure- Hickhurst closed 10 th July for patching | Circulated | |
| Highways | 01/07/23 | Road Closure – Eaton Lane (Tarporley End) close 24 th July for patching | Circulated | |
| Cheshire Constabulary | 04/07/23 | Speed enforcement conducted on Eaton lane, Eaton between 15.15 and 15.45 on 04/07/23 No vehicles driving over the limit | Noted | |
| Member of public | 05/07/23 | Lower Lane vehicle collision with wall, vehicle didn't stop. No details of vehicle , police unable to do anything with incident. | Circulated to be reported to police by land owners | |

23.07.09 Finance Matters

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

| PAYEE | DESCRIPTION | NET (£) | VAT (£) | TOTAL (£) |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| JHVI | Hall Hire May and June 2023 | 60.00 | | 60.00 |
| Cheshire Community Action | Yearly Subs | 20.00 | | 20.00 |

23.07.10 External Meeting

Oulton Park Liaison Group met on 21st June 2023

Villagers day was very busy, lots of people attended for the lunch

Old Hall Corner is to be renovated and a memorial to be created.

23.07.11 Any Other Business

Eaton Village Police Surgeries

August – Thursday 3rd 5pm-6pm

September – Wednesday 6th 4pm-5pm

October -Wednesday 11th 11.00-12. noon

November – Tuesday 7th 6.00-7.00pm

December – Friday 8th 6.00-7.00pm

23.06.12 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th September 2023 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 20:50pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

DRAFT