

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall**  
**on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs. Emma Leslie, Ed Shaw, Graham Sime, Olga Vertija

**In Attendance:** Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Charles Hardy (Ward Councillor) Paul Crisp, Harry Caton, Faith (United Utilities) and Joanne (Avoe)

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

**Resolved:** that the apologies from Cllrs. Thompson and Hodgson be received and accepted.

**24.06.02      Appointment of Chairman,**

**Resolved:** that Emma Leslie accepted the appointment of Chairman and the declaration of office to be undertaken at the June meeting

**24.06.03      Minutes**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 to be agreed and signed.

**Proposed:** Cllr. Shaw

**Seconded:** Cllr. Vertija

**24.06.04 United Utilities**

Communication drop in session planned for Cotebrook Village Hall, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> 3-6pm

Works accelerating

Discussed the delivery of pipes, 4 per load, 2 deliveries per day per site and the routes these will take to reduce disruption in the village.

Sapling Lane road closure, 23<sup>rd</sup> August to 19<sup>th</sup> September for line 1 maintenance, Sapling Lane will be closed at a later date for line 2 maintenance.

Lightfoot Lane will require closure for safety purposes.

Line 1 maintenance planned for June – October 2024

Line 2 maintenance planned for Oct 24-Jan25.

**24.06.05      Public Speaking Time**

**24.06.06**

**Allocations of individual responsibilities will be discussed in July meeting**

**A- allocate individual responsibilities for specific business**

**B- appoint representatives to other organisations**

Oulton Park Liaison – 2 reps.

Cheshire Assoc. of Local Councils (Vale Royal Area Group) - .

**Parish Council Noticeboard**

**CHALC**

**Oulton Park Liaison**

**Litter Pickers**

**Footpaths**

**Communications**

**Development/Planning/Environment**

**Services**

**Clerk**

**Members as available**

**Cllrs. Shaw/Sime**

**Members as available**

**Cllr. Shaw**

**Cllrs. Thompson**

**Cllrs Leslie/Hinchliffe**

**Cllr. Thompson/Clerk**

**Youth/Social/Community**

- Picnic Area - Chair Neil Thompson

**Cllr. Shaw**

**Cllr. Shaw      hedge  
maintenance.**

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- |                |                         |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| - Play Zone -  | Cllr. Vertija           |
| - Facebook –   | Cllr. Vertija + another |
| - Newsletter - | Mike Wilson + another   |

**24.06.07****To agree accounts and audit**

**Resolved:** that the risk assessment to be reviewed and accepted  
 that the Asset Register to be reviewed and accepted  
 that the 2023/2024 Section 1 Annual Governance Statement to be reviewed and accepted.  
 that the 2023/2024 Section 2 Accounting Statements be reviewed and accepted  
 that the bank signatories be reviewed and accepted

**24.06.08** **Planning Matters****1- To note planning decisions received.**

None

**2 -To consider response to planning applications received  
 Applications received since the last meeting.****24/00034/OUT**

**Location-** Land opposite Baytree House, Royal Lane Tarporley,

**Proposal –** Erection of up to two self-build custom houses with access and layout included, and matters of scale, appearance, and landscaping reserved for future consideration.

Comments given February 2024.

The Parish Council **Objects** to this Planning Application

Proposed – Cllr. Vertija

Seconded – Cllr. Sime

The full comments can be seen on a separate document.

No further updates since February 24

**Notification of a Planning Appeal –**

**Written Representations Site Address:** Land Opposite Baytree House Royal Lane Rushton Tarporley

**Description of development:** Erection of up to two self-build custom houses with access and layout included, and matters of scale, appearance, and landscaping reserved for future consideration

**Appellant's name:** Mr Ken Roscoe

**Planning or Enforcement ref:** 24/00034/OUT

**Planning Inspector ref:** APP/A0665/W/24/3343139

**Planning Inspector: Appeal reference:** 24/00072/ND

**Appeal start date:** 4 June 2024

**Comment before:** 9 July 2024

The Parish Council would like to understand on what grounds CWaC are appealing.  
 The Parish Council re-iterates the comments that were previously submitted.

**Application: 24/00665/S73**

**Proposal:** Variation of condition – removal of condition 5 (agricultural occupancy) on planning permissions 4/23618 and 4/23284 (condition 1 Of appeal APP/L0635/A/05/2005162)

**Location:** Grange House, Mill Lane, Rushton, Tarporley, CW6 9AS

The Parish Council have enquired whether the property is still in use for agricultural purposes?, the application states that it has not been used for/linked to agriculture for ten years, but the property has 18 acres which is grazed by sheep.

Therefore the Parish Council would like to understand whether the agricultural tie is associated purely with the property, or does the land need to be farmed to be deemed as agriculture?, does this land need to be farmed by the owner/tenant of the property to require the tie to remain in place or if the land was rented out would the agricultural tie still be required on the property.

An extension to the comments deadline has been requested

No further update

Clerk to contacted Planning again for clarification of agricultural tie.

## 24.06.09      Highways

### Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings

#### a. Highways Issues

village entry signs images have been previously circulated of 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.

During discussion of signs being designed by other Parish Councils, Cllr Shaw asked whether some or all of the signs should read 'Rushton and Eaton' if approaching Rushton and 'Eaton and Rushton' if approaching Eaton.

Councillors will review details and assess funding avenues.

Clerk have liaised with Little Budworth and Utkinton and Cotebrook Parish Council's regarding their new signs.

To contact Highways to enquire whether line painting on Eaton Lane would be an advantage and who would be responsible for the payment of this process.

**Actions – prepare proposal and continue liaison with Highways      Cllrs Sime, Leslie and Vertija.**

Sapling Lane

To enable the United Utilities maintenance work to be undertaken Sapling Lane will be closed for 23<sup>rd</sup> August to 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

#### 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 moved to incorporate the Jessie Hughes Village Hall. 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,

Highways have confirmed that to move the 20mph sign to incorporate the Jessie Carpark requires Highways to follow the TTRO process and readvertise, consultation is currently underway.

2. VAS On Lower Lane – is a community initiative to slow traffic on a narrow lane with no footpaths next to the busy primary school.

The Parish Council has worked with the Ward Councillor, Highways and the public and have secured a new location, the pole has been refitted and the VAS unit is undergoing maintenance before it is reinstalled.

3. The Oulton Mill Lane sign, located by the Picnic area was hit and damaged in the autumn 2022, the damage was reported to Highways at the time but no actions taken. The sign then disappeared (summer 2023). Clerk reported this to Highways and a works order placed but no timescales for the replacement given. The sign has now re-appeared but is damaged and dangerous, clerk reported to Highways again.
4. The Hall lane, the speed signs are facing the wrong way and need turning correctly, Clerk has reported this to Highways who will adjust the signage, works order in place.
5. Lower lane, has no road markings in some areas due to the narrow nature of the road. Parish Clerk, Highways will undertake new line paintings in due course.' Parish Council has asked for resurfacing to be undertaken before line painting, Highways have no provision to resurface. If evidence that Highways have previously committed to road surfacing, this can be re-addressed.
6. The road sign on the corner of Hickhurst and Dogmore Lane is broken, a works order is in place.
7. The road sign on the corner of Dogmore and Kings Lane is broken, a works order is in place.
8. The 30mph signs on Eaton lane are the wrong way around, a works order is in place
9. Oulton mill lane to Cotebrook junction, visibility is very poor especially in large vehicles, Highways do not believe there are any safety issues with this junction
10. Sapling Lane, large pothole/Sink hole appeared next to a drain cover, within 40 minutes of reporting to Highways, operatives were on site and undertook a repair. It has reappeared and reported to Highway, they will undertake investigations into the source.
11. Eaton Lane Drainage issues Curbing project at village green, residents would like to assist in the project. Funding options to be assessed.  
Theres water flowing from the telephone box down the road, Unities Utilities have confirmed it is not chlorinated and therefore not a water leak. Clerk has already reported this to Highways as a likely drainage fault, Highways believe its just flowing from Higher Ground. Clerk has contacted UU to ask how to proceed with this, who have confirmed there are no assets leaking within the village.  
Parish Council to seek a meeting with Highways. Possible option is to place a drain along the edge of the green to capture all excess flow.
12. Beech Lane Layby has a sign which is in need of replacement, a bin would also be a great asset to the layby. A school bus was observed having to reverse as they couldn't pull out of the layby due to the concrete posts and soil that have been deposited.
13. The hedge on Eaton Lane at the corner opposite the monument is overgrown, to approach homeowner to ask for the hedge to be cut back.
14. The 20mph signs on Wibterford lane are the wrong way around, Highways to be notified
15. The 20mph signs on Sapling lane are the wrong way around. Highways to be notified.

#### **24.06.10 Reports from Working Groups Communications**

##### **Newsletter**

Thank you to Mike for his editorship and circulation. Mike will continue to undertake this role for this year,

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)

##### **Oulton Mill Picnic Area Project.**

The Picnic Area bin has now being emptied by Street Scene. The site is being used regularly. All councillors agreed that 4 fruit trees should be purchased and planted in the picnic area, to be planted in November.

The picnic area is suffering a mole issue, previously a mole catcher was employed but all his mole traps were stolen, at the moment the moles will not be controlled.

The Parish Council and local birds would like to thank the mystery person who fills the bird feeders at the entrance to the picnic area.

Nick Rayner is cutting the grass fortnightly.

Display boards to be removed and replaced

Hedge by layby to be carefully cut as currently very overgrown and encroaching layby.

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**

The steps on the junior Tower need replacing or repairing, Olga to contact Creative Play regarding damage, the quote received appears excessive. Local Joiner to be approached for advice or assistance.

The wet pour is damaged at the MUGA, school has Risk assessed and will not use till repaired. Creative Play quote excessive, and cannot be undertaken till July. Terry Bal to undertake repair.

The gates to the Play Zone are sagging and need realignment, Olga to contact Terry Ball.

The 52 team are working well and we thank everyone involved in keeping the Play Zone a well maintained and enjoyable space for the children of the Parish.

### **Village Green**

As detailed within Road Safety

### **Matters Arising**

#### **Councillor Vacancy**

Paul Crisp has applied for the post of Parish Councillor, he attended the meeting to observe, all councillors have received a copy of the application form and are unanimous in welcoming Paul to the Parish Council

To follow the application process, Co-option to the Parish Council will be formally undertaken in the July meeting.

#### **24.06.11 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>
Highways	08/04/24 onwards	20mph Royal Lane under consultation	Circulated
Member of Public	09/05/24	Sapling Lane subsidence photo's, sent to Highways, engineer on site in 40 minutes, repair undertaken immediately	Replied to member of public
Highways	09/05/24 onwards	Sapling Lane Subsidence, if re-occurs Highways will undertake an investigation into it	10/06/24, contacted Highways to report subsidence
Member of Public	27/05/24	Village Green water issues and village green bed. Clerk e-mailed UU and Highways	Circulated, Clerk to do works on bed
Member of Public	28/05/24	Overhanging shrub on Eaton Lane in village centre	Circulated to ask for maintenance
Member of Public and Cllrs.	28/05/24	Repairs to MUGA, options, quotes and dates for repair	Circulated
Member of Public	01/06/24	MUGA Not open half term	circulated
Insurance	03/06/24	MUGA Repairs can be undertaken by any company that are fully	filed

		insured to undertake the works	
UU	10/06/24	UU confirm no leaks to assets within the Eaton area	Circulated
Planning	10/06/24	24/00034/OUT Appeal to planning process. Correspondence with planning officer	Circulated
Planning	10/06/24	New guidelines for extension to comment	Circulated and responded
Member of Public		Complaint regarding the layby on Eaton Lane, concrete and soil makes	Circulaed

#### **24.06.12 Finance Matters**

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

<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>PAYEE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>NET (£)</b>	<b>VAT (£)</b>	<b>TOTAL (£)</b>
1057	L Worrall	Q1 Salary	£1146.60		£1146.60
1058	L Worrall	Q! Expenses	£135.62	£19.32	£154.95

#### **24.06.13 External Meeting**

Oulton park Liaison Group.  
Villagers day 7th july  
Costs this year have been increased  
Lunch – adults £5  
BMW experience - £20  
All other experiences -£10

The liaison group have a vacancy for Residents liasion officer, if anyone would like to apply for this role, please e-mail the Clerk, Lindsey at [rushtonclerk@aol.com](mailto:rushtonclerk@aol.com)

#### **24.06.14 Any Other Business**

##### **Eaton Village Police Surgeries**

July 17<sup>th</sup> – 5pm  
Aug 17<sup>th</sup> – 6pm  
Sept 5<sup>th</sup> – 3pm  
Oct 25<sup>th</sup> – 10-am  
Nov 8<sup>th</sup> – 5pm  
Dec 14<sup>th</sup> – 11am

#### **24.06.15 Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

**The meeting closed at 21:04pm.**

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