

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall
on Tuesday 15th March 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. Neil Thompson, Emma Leslie, Suzanne Hinchliffe, Phil Hodgson, Olga Vertiga

In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Cllr. Moore-Dutton (Ward Councillor)

22.03.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

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

22.03.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 15th February 2022 be agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Hodgson

Seconded: Cllr. Hinchliffe

22.03.03 Public Speaking Time

Cllr. Moore-Dutton

CWaC Planning Enforcement Team have visited the site at Oulton Mill Lane and enforcement action is ongoing. The owners of the site have been told to apply for planning permission for some of the activities taking place on site.

22.03.04 Planning Matters

1- To note planning decisions.

Oulton Mill Lane

Enforcement case has been opened for this planning permission.

Permission was granted for an agricultural building under permitted development.

The beauty spot has been spoilt by the actions of the applicant. The applicant would need evidence that the activities on the site are agricultural to support the permission granted.

CWaC Planning Enforcement Team have visited the site at Oulton Mill Lane and enforcement action is ongoing. The owners of the site have been told to apply for planning permission for some of the activities taking place on site.

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

21/05048/FUL

Location - Hares Form, Winterford Lane, Rushton

Proposal – Erection of Rural Workers Dwelling.

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

Proposed – Cllr. Hinchliffe

Seconded – Cllr. Leslie

The Parish Council is supportive of this application with the assumption that the dwelling will be tied to the business, and that the permitted development rights should be removed to prevent the dwelling being further enhanced in the future.

22.03.05 Highways

Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings

There has been little progress on the following issues but they remain our objectives for completion in 2021 and 2022.

A full list of the council's objectives can be found in the May 2021 Meeting minutes.

a. Highways Issues

Oulton Mill Lane, the tarmac has been undermined and there is now a 6 foot drop, the road is narrow anyway, if two vehicles meet at this point one could end up seriously damaged. Highways have been made aware, but as no highways drainage is in place on the road they are not in a position to undertake any remedial works.

Sapling Lane carriage way is subsiding, this is in the centre of the carriage way and could become very hazardous to motorists if the road surface becomes more damaged. Highways have been made aware of this and have undertaken an assessment, they have concluded that at the moment no action is required.

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). The Design has been prepared by CWaC Highways and once approved this work will be undertaken. The 20mph sign by the Green, should be moved out to where the 30mph sign is. This is being assessed by Highways and we await a decision.

40mph sign on Whalley Drive is missing, and the other one is pointing the wrong way. Clerk to contact Highways and ask for a replacement.

The Fingerpost on Dogmore Lane is facing the wrong way, to contact Highways and ask for this to be corrected. Both have been reported to CWaC and are awaiting replacements and repairs.

The Eaton Sign at Winterford Lane is in need of re-painting, this is owned by CWaC, Clerk to ask for this to be undertaken before it degrades further. Highways have conformed that these signs belong to the Parish Council and we can repaint or replace at our own expense.

There is a large pothole at Stages Platt (Back Lane/Winterford Lane), Clerk to Report this to Highways for immediate repair.

b. Road Safety Matters

Convictions – after 10 years of working with Cheshire Constabulary the Parish Council now have regular convictions for speeding motorists travelling through Eaton. Thanks to PSCO Jorge and PC Paul.

Cllr. Tunney of Utkinton and Cotebrook Parish Council has corresponded with the surrounding Parish Councils regarding a Community Speed Watch. Data from our Vehicle Activated Signs would help to determine the route forward.

Action – ask for a data download

Clerk

Serious accidents have occurred on Royal Lane just outside the village, a total of five accidents in four years have occurred including a car hitting a tree. These accidents need to be reported to Highways when they occur to re-enforce how dangerous the lanes of the Parish are and that speed is often a factor in car accidents.

The Clerk will report all Flood issues potholes and Highways issues, but if residents also report them the issues will be dealt with quicker, the number of times issues are reported the higher ranked an issue becomes (a bit like points makes prizes). Go onto the Cheshire West and Chester Council Website,

click onto **Report a Highway Fault**, then **Report a Fault**

You will be able to detail the fault, including the exact location and attach up to five photos.

22.03.06 Reports from Working Groups Communications

Oulton Mill Picnic Area Project.

The Picnic Area is being used well. Thank you to Mike Wilson and others who check on the site/bin regularly. The picnic area will have a reinvigorated 12 team to empty the bin weekly. The fruit trees have been pruned.

Cllr. Shaw will be the main contact for the picnic area going forward.

Jamie Wright will give a quote for mowing the grass every other week.

CWaC StreetCare Services have met Mike Wilson on site and given great advice about tree planting and wildflower planting, including the rates of seeds per square metre they apply, the methods of ground cultivation and new technology they are trailing to make the projects easier and even more environmentally friendly.

StreetCare may be able to assist with the emptying of the bin, this may incur a regular cost, so would need consideration. There is also a tree that fell during the recent storms, StreetCare may be able to remove this for us.

The Streetcare Team have also give valuable contacts of organisations who can potentially offer trees to community groups free of charge and others who have Cheshire apples and pears.

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

The wildflower area to be rotavated and resown, costing approx. £50 on annual flower seeds
Six new fruit trees to also be purchased

Proposed: Cllr. Shaw

Seconded: Cllr. Sime

Youth/Social/Community

Play Zone Project

The play zone sanitiser is checked regularly to ensure it is kept topped up. Signage is in place. The Playzone management committee are all happy to continue in their roles.

The 52 rota team is in place and working well.

There will be a Spring Clean at the Play Zone, Friday 22nd April 4pm till 7pm and Saturday 23rd April 10am till 12. The list of jobs to be done will be circulated nearer the time.

The annual inspection by Creative Play is yet to be undertaken, this will happen in due time.

The repairs previously detailed were undertaken by Creative Play on 24th January.

During these repairs it was noted that there was damage occurring to the tean shelter, caused by rain, a small extension to the roof would rectify this issue. Creative Play have given a quote of £2,000 for this which is far beyond what was expected.

Cllr. Vertiga will take over the Play Zone Management and sit on the committee.

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.

Agreement has been reached with the Academy regarding the £500 per year maintenance fee and wording of relevant agreement paragraphs including aspects of liability. This will need to be clarified by Parish Councils Solicitor.

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**

22.03.07 Matters Arising

Village Design Statement (VDS)

A meeting with the Village Design Group was held in June 2021 and the actions can be seen in the Parish Council minutes for June

Cllr. Thompson has liaised with CWaC to determine the weight given to the VDS document if it is acknowledged or adopted by the council.

A discussion was held with all councillors present, all feel that the document contains a lot of valuable information including the history of the Parish.

The Parish Council Note the Village Design Statement (VDS) and will refer to it.

Corona Virus Buddy Update

The buddy system is still working well, thank you to all the angels who assisted over the past year. There is currently a spike of covid in the village, the Parish Council hopes everyone is keeping safe and well, but if anyone needs any help or assistance please do not hesitate to make contact.

Trees on the Green

The trees have now been pruned, during the work most residents of the Village Green spoke with the Arboriculturists and liaised with the Clerk regarding the pruning work.

It has taken a long time to undertake this work, the Parish Council thanks all the residents for their valued input into the conversations and discussions we have had over the trees and we will continue to undertake maintenance work on them regularly.

22.03.08 Correspondence

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

Reporter	Date	Description	Action	
Member of public	18/02/22	Litter on the road – possibly result of falling from waste recycling vehicles but also possibly from the storm conditions experienced	Responded and Circulate to councillors	
Member of public	20/02/22	Several e-mails from residents around the village green. Thanking Parish Council for pruning the trees		
United Utilities	23/02/22	Liaison between UU and PC to arrange attendance at a future PC meeting		
Cllr. Moore-Dutton	21/02/22	Liaison between Mike Wilson, Cllr. Moore Dutton and Your Street to undertake works on wildflower area of Picnic area	circulated	
CWaC	23/02/22	Boundary Review Consultation	Circulated	
CWaC	04/03/22	Queens Jubilee celebration guidance	Circulated	

22.03.09 Finance Matters

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

- Accounts for payment (below)

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
Jordan Baker	Village Green Tree Pruning	£1250.00	£250.00	£1500.00
L Worrall	Q4 Salary	£917.28		£917.28
JHVI	Hall Hire -Jan and Feb 2022	£54.00		£54.00
Parish Online	Subscription charge	£37.50	£7.50	£45.00

22.03.10 External Meeting

Platinum Jubilee Meeting

Meeting was held at the Jessie Hughes village Hall, approx. 20 people attended.

- There will be village events on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the Jubilee weekend
- A working group will be set up to sew bunting to help decorate the village and houses.
- A scarecrow competition will be held, Cllr. Moore- Dutton will judge this.
- The Parish Council will make Jubilee mugs
- Friday – Bake off and Tea Party at The Drays
- Saturday – Party and Treasure Hunt, with the official celebrations being shown on screen at the Jessie Hughes
- Sunday – ‘Bring your own Picnic’, possibly at the school

22.03.11 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th April 2022 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

22.03.12 Any Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:05pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____