

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall
on Tuesday 21st March 2023 at 7.30pm

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

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

23.03.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

Resolved: that the apologies from Cllr. Thompson be received and accepted

In the absence of the Chair, Cllr. Leslie chaired the meeting.

23.03.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 21st February 2023 to be agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Hodgson

Seconded: Cllr. Sime

23.03.03 Public Speaking Time

PC Paul Gilcrest and PCSO Jorge Ferreira of Cheshire Constabulary attended.

Eaton Residents could sign up to a Neighbourhood Watch Chat, a web-based system owned and operated by the Police, it enables residents to log suspicious activities but not crimes which could then be investigated by Cheshire Constabulary or lead to stop and search of vehicles. To advertise this and encourage residents to sign up to the system Cheshire Police would like to set up a gazebo on the Jessie car park for a couple of hours. This will take place on Saturday 22nd April between 1-3pm

Councillor Shaw raised the issue of cyclists riding four abreast along the narrow roads of the parish, concerned that in the future there may be accidents, tractors have to pull over with vehicles behind them and the cyclists often give abuse whilst riding without due care and attention. It would be good if Cheshire Constabulary could show a presence, especially at a weekend to educate, the police said they have no powers to enforce the speed of cyclists and advised to get Dashcams that could record the behaviour.

Although it may be correct that cyclists speed may be below that enforceable, dangerous cycling could be, good manners and being courteous to others on the road should all be expected especially on rural roads.

Mike Wilson gave an update

Play zone spring clean will take place 9-11am on 1st April, new signs will be in place.

CPR training has been rescheduled for 26th March, 1-4pm, and costs £2 per person.

Coronation Planning

A Coronation committee has been established with a meeting on Wednesday 22nd March, it is thought one another meeting will be held closer to the coronation also, councillors are invited to join the committee and help out over the weekend of celebrations.

Live streaming of events over the weekend, celebration mugs are being ordered, and a community help out day on the Bank Holiday Monday where people will be encouraged to volunteer to help the community.

Cllr. Moore- Dutton gave an update on the recent works she has been involved with;

Local Public Transport

Arriva sudden announcement they were stopping the 84 bus route. Users of the service have found the service unreliable recently. D & G are prepared to put themselves forward to the North

West Public Transport Commissioner as an operator of the route. This route is a commercial route and not subject to local authority funding.

Cllr Moore-Dutton still hopes to find a way to improve local public transport in this area. Beeston Station has long been one aspiration but the recent news about possible delays to HS2 may kick this further down the line.

Pothole Repairs

There has been generally very positive feedback about the new JCB pothole repairing machine. The good news is that the recent CWaC budget has allocated a further £200,000 for trials and quality and economic assessments.

Community Innovation Fund

Further good news is that the Community Innovation Fund will provide another £250,000 to assist with community led initiatives such as the improvements to the Tarporley Community Centre that will help to ensure that the Centre and other village assets will be viable in the future as well as reducing the negative environmental impact.

23.03.05 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 do not clearly show the datum point to determine the bund size and also do not clearly detail whether the trailers are to remain or be removed from the site. Clerk has asked for clarification from the Planning Officer. Once these points have been clarified the Parish Council will make comment.

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.

23.03.06 Highways

Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings

a. Highways Issues

Planters and village entry signs Cllr Hinchliffe circulated images of sign designs in January 2023, these could be used for the design of the village entrances. All councillors have looked at these and discussion held.

Clerk and Councillor Hinchliffe has spoken with Little Budworth Parish Council regarding the signage that they are proposing.

Jerry Gibbs of Highways has clarified the licences required for working on highways land. To seek further guidance from Highways regarding the ownership of the current signs (PC or CWaC), if CWaC can PC take on ownership.

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

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

b. Road Safety 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. No timescales for this work has been given.
- 2) Speed data from VAS – Cllr Sime will be taking this on and will contact Brian Oldham and Paul Healey about how to get the data. Issue has been found that the data can only be downloaded onto android devices. The VAS on Lower Lane is not working, Clerk to contact Morlock, it may need a new battery.
- 3) Community Speed Watch and Speed Camera – can the village club together to buy one? Cllr Thompson – costs of camera and implementation of a Community Speed Watch including training will be included in discussions about speed reduction measures.
- 4) Oulton Mill Lane. The ditch on the left as driving to Cotebrook is overflowing again. 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 ditch is flooded and now flooding a field which is currently cropped with a winter crop, the drains in the field have stopped working, the crop damaged and the field is inaccessible.

The site has been inspected by Highways Officer Ian Lovatt, he assured those on site during the visit that actions would be taken to resolve the issue, nothing has been done to date.

Councillor Shaw has hired a jetter and using his own machinery and staff has cleared 25,000 gallons of water from the ditch in the last few days, the jetter has managed to clear half the drain under the road but cannot progress any further as the drains are broken.

On Brownhills the road was a foot deep in water in areas, walkers had to turn around as the road was unpassable. Councillor Shaw has jetter the drains on Brownhills and managed to clean the drains and move the water.

23.03.07 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

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

Broadband

Following a meeting at Cotebrook Village Hall, Open Reach have confirmed that the voucher scheme can be utilised for the Parish and surrounding areas who are currently struggling with broadband issues.

Oulton Mill Picnic Area Project.

The Picnic Area bin has now being emptied 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

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 for April 1st to undertake a spring clean, and reseal areas of water ingress.

Parents will be invited to take part in the spring clean.

Quotes have been received for replacement signs and an order placed.

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.

The agreement has undergone final review with the solicitor, all councillors present happy with the agreement and happy for it to be signed.

Chair and Vice Chair have signed the Agreement, solicitors are finalising the documentation

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

Cllr. Thompson

Matters Arising

CPR Training

CPR Training has been rearranged for 26th March 2023.

23.03.08 Correspondence

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

Reporter	Date	Description	Action
Solicitors and councillors	16/03/22 onwards	MUGA agreement update	Responded and Circulate to councillors
Member of	25/01/23	Organising CPR Training for	Circulated

Public	onwards	19/02/23 rescheduled for 26/03/23	
Member of Public	26/01/23 onwards	Organising Spring Clean of Play Zone rearranged for 01/04/23	Circulated
Member of Public	24/02/2023	Issue regarding the timing of minutes being placed on noticeboard and website not organised	Circulated and issue resolved
Member of Public	25/02/2023	Snowdrops on the village green are ready to be split	Councillors happy for snowdrops to be split
CWaC	28/02/2023	Election Documentation	Printed for noticeboard
Member of Public	01/03/2023	Reports of a door to door sales man selling cleaning products in village	Councillors, residents and Police notified
Tarporley Hospital	02/03/2023	Tarporley War Memorial Hospital Newsletter	Circulated and placed on Noticeboard
CWaC	03/03/2023	Election Documentation	Printed for noticeboard
Little Budworth PC	06/03/2023	Little Budworth PC gave details of the company making their entrance signs	Circulated
JHVI	12/03/2023	Received funding to purchase battery to store energy	Circulated

23.03.09 Finance Matters

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
WEL Medical Ltd	AED Battery	£160.00	£32.00	£192.00
LR Worrall	Q4 Salary	£936.00		£936.00
LR Worrall	Q4 Expenses	£22.08	£3.34	£25.42
Cllr. Hodgson	Expenses			
JHVI	Hall Hire -Jan & Feb 2023	£78.00		£78.00

23.03.10 External Meeting

Oulton Park Liaison Meeting is on 22nd March

23.03.11 Any Other Business

23.03.12 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th April 2023 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____