

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held Via Zoom on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs. Neil Thompson, Emma Leslie, Mike Wilson, Suzanne Hinchcliffe, Eddie Shaw, Amy Markham.

**In Attendance:** Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Eveleigh Moore- Dutton (Ward Councillor) Penny Musgrave, Catherine Rayner

The Zoom, meeting was Chaired throughout by vice Chair Emma Leslie as Chair Neil Thompson could not guarantee being there at the start due to family commitments.

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

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

**20.05.02      Minutes**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

**Proposed:** Cllr. Wilson

**Seconded:** Cllr. Leslie

**20.05.03      Public Speaking Time**

Penny Musgrave of The Old School House, Light Foot Lane, Eaton, attended the meeting to discuss the ongoing planning application at her property. The planning application has now been in for fourteen months with little feedback to the applicant. An amendment to the application has now been made to alter the parking arrangements for the properties. A gate to be installed on Lightfoot Lane and parking for both properties now coming from the entrance at Lightfoot Lane. Concerns have been raised about the trees that have been cut down at the front of the property on Sapling Lane, this was undertaken by SP Energy to facilitate works within the village.

Catherine Rayner of Hill House Farm attended the Parish Council meeting to discuss the application for a Holiday Lodge.

The Lodge that is applied for has been relocated from the previous application, the proposal is to relocate the lodge from the top end of the field onto an existing hard standing car park. This would also mean the proposed Lodge would be sited between the current Lodge and the tractor shed, so would be screened by the present buildings, trees, hedge and fence line so there would be limited visibility of the proposed Lodge.

If this application is successful there are no plans to put up any further new build Lodges and the applicant would be happy to accept this as a condition of planning being passed.

Clerk has requested some details from the Planning officer as to whether the area to be built on is agricultural or equestrian land, the applicants have forwarded details regarding the application to the clerk that has been circulated to the councillors.

**20.05.04      Matters Arising**

**Village Green Wall Repairs**

A quote has been received for the repair to the damage that occurred to the wall of the Village Green following the Road Traffic Accident. The quote is;

£803.00 plus VAT

This quote is sizable due to the traffic management element required to ensure the repairs can be undertaken safely.

The quote was initially sent to the haulage company, once they received the quote for the repair they have failed to respond to phone calls or e-mails.

Clerk has instructed the insurance company to undertake the repair and try to reclaim cost from the haulage company.

### **Corona Virus Buddy Update**

Cllr Wilson gave an update on how the Buddy System and Local News Update were being handled. There was an excess of volunteers (over 90) offering to help and all those considered “vulnerable or shielded~” (over 50) within our Parish from the outset in March were given a “Buddy Angel” to do shopping, prescriptions and being there as a contact. Mike reported that Tarporley Parish Council are doing a good job and ideas and information is shared.

Residents of Eaton are mowing the grass on the green, picnic area and the school, whilst other volunteers are making Scrubs for Leighton Hospital.

The Insurance company have asked for risk assessments to be undertaken by all volunteers helping in the village, this will ensure all parties are covered under the Parish Councils Public Liabilities.

CWaC to be made aware that residents are undertaking the mowing at the moment, as the operative who attended from CWaC managed one strip before finding he was unable to do anymore.

‘Drop in’ phone calls are being made to people to see how they are especially those who have no access to computers. A Virtual quiz is also being run. All agreed that a special effort should be made to ensure that residents who may be suffering from the mental effects of isolation, are identified and help offered. Cllr Wilson agreed to include this in the next update.

### **19.05.05      Planning Matters**

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

##### **20/00850/FUL**

**Location-** Mulbery House, Eaton Green, Eaton, CW6 9YN

**Proposal –** Addition of Dormer windows to front elevation.

**Approved**

#### **2- To consider response to planning applications received**

##### **19/00568/FUL -Amendment/additional information**

**Location –** The Old School House, Lightfoot Lane, Eaton, CW6 9AF

**Proposal-** Sub-division to form separate dwelling with own vehicular and pedestrian access

The Parish Council **SUPPORTS** this Planning Application as long as sympathetic to the conservation area –

Proposed – Cllr. Leslie

Seconded – Cllr. Hinchcliffe

##### **19/00569/LBC -Amendment/additional information**

**Location –** The Old School House, Lightfoot Lane, Eaton, CW6 9AF

**Proposal-** Sub-division to form separate dwelling with own vehicular and pedestrian access

The Parish Council **SUPPORTS** this Planning Application as long as sympathetic to the conservation area –

Proposed – Cllr. Leslie

Seconded – Cllr. Hinchcliffe

##### **20/01208/FUL**

**Location-** Linden House, Eaton Green, Eaton, CW6 9YN

**Proposal –** Addition of Dormer windows to front elevation

Proposal – Cllr. Hinchcliffe

Seconded – Cllr. Wilson

## **20.05.06     Highways**

### **Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings**

#### **1. Proposals suggested by the Parish Council & Responses from Highways**

##### **a. Speed Limits (see marked up map used).**

- i. The 20mph limit currently on the Village Green, should be moved out to where the existing 30mph limit is situated (the originally agreed position).
- ii. The 30mph limit in i. above should be moved out to the current "Eaton Village Sign" towards Cotebrook.
- iii. 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).
- iv. The 30mph limit in ii. Should go out to the "Eaton Village Sign" at the hill-top
- v. The current 20mph sign 50m below the school (Lower Lane), should be moved out to existing 30mph signs at the far end of Whalley Drive.
- vi. The 30mph signs from v. to be moved to junction with Dogmore Lane.

##### **vii. Response by Highways**

The proposal was understood by Highways but involved many issues. It was agreed that RPC will contact Dave Reeves (Road Safety Engineer) of Highways Ellesmere Port office to arrange a visit and possible re-assessment. It was agreed to hold this meeting last year and the Clerk was asked to expedite this which may have to be a Zoom type meeting.

**ACTION: RPC to arrange meeting with Dave Reeves.**

##### **b. Actions to try and reduce the number and / or speed of vehicles using Eaton as a "rat run" between the Alvanley Arms (A49) and the "Red Fox" (A49/A51).**

##### **i. Village Approaches (see examples)**

On Eaton Lane and Royal Lane ("Eaton" Sign Board) the Parish Council would like to create "You Are Entering a Rural Village" structures with flower beds, beware signs; gated impression. The structure would be fastened to the "Eaton" village signs and not require digging out for supports etc.

##### **ii. Response by Highways**

No initial objection. Various forms are now online for "addition of street furniture" etc and RPC were advised to look-into this and before submitting, send a draft to them for comment

**ACTION: RPC to complete documentation and submit with layout etc to Highways for comment.**

##### **iii. Road Marking**

Existing & new road marking e.g. "dragons-teeth" need to be investigated and renewed where appropriate.

##### **iv. Response by Highways**

This can be looked at after the decisions are made ref new speed limit positions.

**Smaller Issues requiring attention**

Flooding occurs from the ditch on Oulton Mill Lane during the wetter months, the clerk is liaising with Highways, the landowner has cleared the drains and confirmed that there is a sandstone drain under the carriage way, there is no headwall to this drainage system. The Landowner will meet with Highways during the new financial year.

United Utilities are looking at Dogmore Lane near Red Beech Farm, new drains may be required.

The PSCO regularly undertakes speed checks within the village using a speed gun, he stops motorists who are travelling above the limit.

In December with the help of the PSCO we requested the Police undertake speed checks with the Camera van on Eaton Lane, after the initial assessment of Eaton Lane it became apparent that The Camera Van would not be able to use the Layby on Eaton Lane or any other location along the stretch because a van needs to be visible for 100 metres within a 40 mph zone to avoid issues with motorists braking.

We have requested a meeting with Highways to follow up from our last meeting with them in December 2019, one of the items we want to discuss with them is the possibility of a speed survey and the financial costs involved, this meeting is on hold until the Coronavirus pandemic has passed. The Parish Council are also working with The Highways Dept to install planters at the entrances to the village to emphasis to all that they are entering a village environment.

## **20.05.07    Reports from Working Groups** **Communications**

### **Electronic Newsletter**

The May edition of the parish newsletter was circulated electronically only, thanks to everyone who contributed to the contents and especially to Phil Allcock who edited the newsletter.

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

School Project – Birds Bugs & Butterflies project was completed in July with Eaton Primary School.

The project was to be repeated with Eaton Primary School in Spring 2020, but is currently on hold

The Tesco Grant for the Bees, Bugs and Butterflies Project has a balance of £412.66 which could finance more work on the project.

The original Grant balance is £1,832.83

Some perennial weeds have been sprayed to prevent re-occurrence and spread.

Only a small amount of new seeds have been put down this year.

## **Youth/Social/Community**

### **Play Zone Project**

Currently closed

### **Youth Club**

Currently Closed.

### **Village Fun Day**

This year's village fun day will be on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September, if allowed by government guidelines it may be that this year the fun day could involve Eaton Primary School.

## **20.05.08    Correspondence**

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

Reporter	Date	Description	Action
Member of public	18/05/20	Correspondence received regarding Speeding in the village, street lighting along Eaton Lane and the long-term health and maturity of the Canadian Oak Trees on the village green	Circulated to councillors, all items within e-mail discussed at length within the meeting. Respond to member of the public

The Clerk has made enquires with a tree specialist to determine the height the Canadian Oaks will grow to and whether the Parish Council should take action now to either prune them or remove and replace with native trees that are suited to the location.

The Clerk has been liaising with SP Energy to determine whether any works are programmed for Eaton Village to place the cables along Eaton Lane underground.

A speed Initiative Group has been set up with the first 'virtual meeting' planned for 24<sup>th</sup> June, Rushton Parish Council along with residents will be liaising with Cheshire Constabulary and the Highways Dept. to look at Speed Enforcement and speed reduction options on Eaton Lane.

#### **20.05.09 Finance Matters**

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
Zurich Municipal	Parish Council Insurance 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2020 – 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2021	£1003.67		£1003.67
CwaC	Youth Group rent 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan-31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020	£81.00		£81.00
Mr M Wilson	Weed Killer for Picnic Area	£44.16	£8.83	£52.99
ChALC	Subscription 2020-2021	£136.44		£136.44

#### **20.05.10 External Meeting**

Oulton Park Liaison Group – Due to occur June 8<sup>th</sup>, no details have been received as to whether this will go ahead and over what platform.

MSV Oulton Park will open on 26<sup>th</sup> May for track days

Cllr. Suzanne Hinchcliffe is joining the trustee's of Tarporley Memorial Hospital.

Gill Dennet is selling sunflowers to raise money for the hospital and Lindsey Worrall is selling Herbaceous Perennials and Tomato plants to raise money for both Tarporley Hospital and the Hospice of the Good Shepherd.

#### **20.05.10 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be the AGM, the date and time is yet to be determined, once the accounts have been finalised by the Clerk and internal auditor.

#### **20.05.1 Any Other Business**

**There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:20pm.**

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