

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the JESSIE HUGHES VILLAGE HALL on MONDAY 17th November 2014 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. D. Lilley, A. Nicholas, J. O'Shea, S. Roberts, M. Scott, E. Shaw,
M. Wilson (Chair)

In Attendance: A. Stubbs (clerk)
Cllr. E. Moore-Dutton (CWAC)

14.11.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

There were no apologies and no disclosures of interests.

14.11.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 20th October 2014 be agreed and signed as a correct record with one correction. Proposed Cllr. Roberts, seconded Cllr. Lilley.

14.11.03 Public Speaking Time

No members of the public were in attendance.

14.11.04 Matters Arising

Picnic Area

Still waiting for confirmation from CWAC as to the legal requirements. The ranger, Charles Baillie, is struggling to make any progress with the legal department. Cllr. Moore-Dutton agreed to help push for some action within CWAC.

It is hoped that the hedges will be trimmed within the next couple of weeks.

ACTION – Cllr. Roberts to progress

Plaque for trees on Kings Lane/Edgewell Lane

ACTION – With Cllr. Scott to progress

Grit Bins

The Kings Lane bin is now in position. The Sapling Lane bin is awaiting confirmation that the resident is happy with the proposed position.

ACTION – Clerk to inform resident on Sapling Lane

Path to the Village Hall

Highways have asked the Parish Council to provide 50% of the cost of this - £1,192. Cllr. Wilson hoped that the Jessie Hughes Village Hall might contribute towards this and also that Highways might be able to put in more money.

ACTION – Cllr Wilson to ask for contribution from Jessie Hughes Village Hall and also to contact Highways to clarify costs and see if there is any leeway in our contribution.

Little Budworth Common

There are two information days being held on 26th and 29th November between 10am and 3pm to provide details of the 'Common Heathland Restoration Project' following the successful completion of negotiations.

Provision of affordable housing

Following the article in the newsletter, 28 replies have been received. The Parish Council is aiming for 50 replies.

ACTION – Cllrs. O'Shea and Wilson to canvass younger members of the Parish who are in rented accommodation to see if 'affordable housing' would appeal to them.

Clerk to investigate the different types of affordable housing.

Clerk to check the electoral roll to get an indication of the age demographic of the parish.

Red Lion Pub

No action taken.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to chase and report back at next meeting.

Succession Plan for current projects

Further to Cllr. Wilson outlining his intention to stand down from the Parish Council in April and his plans for handing over his various projects, it was requested that any other Councillors who are not planning to stand for election should also start to look at how to handover their responsibilities. Cllr. Scott re-affirmed his intention to stand down (announced by email earlier in the year). He hoped to complete many of his projects before April but responsibilities that would need to be handed over included:

- Litter Pickers
- Liaison with Dog Warden
- Liaison with Footpath officer

Sycamore Tree at Elm Tree Court

A resident has requested that this be trimmed back. It is not on Parish Council but on land belonging to CWAC.

ACTION – Cllr. Lilley to have a chat with the resident regarding their concerns and the work requested.

Hedge Trimming

4 responses to the article in the newsletter regarding hedge trimming have been received. It was also noted that some of the Parish road signs need trimming around.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to have a chat with a resident whose hedge is overhanging a pavement.

Resolved: that note should be made of the good job many local farmers have made in trimming back their hedges. Proposed Cllr. Wilson, seconded Cllr. Roberts.

14.11.05 Reports from Working Groups

Communications

Website

Offline Upgrade in progress by Barney Stubbs and Rowan O'Shea who will be invited to attend the December meeting.

Newsletter

Was issued in November as planned with a mini-update to be issued in December. Cllr. Shaw thanked Cllr. Wilson for all his hard work in producing and distributing the newsletter.

Superfast Broadband

Openreach have been laying cable along Eaton Lane.

Development/Planning/Environment

Village Green

A digger will arrive on 29th November to remove the steps and bus stop base. Cllrs. Shaw and Nicholas agreed to provide trailers for waste.

Hedges at UU site Sapling Lane

United Utilities have done a good job in doing extra work here and more is planned.

ACTION – Cllr. Scott

Finials

Have now been received. Cllr. Scott is painting prior to installation.

ACTION – Clerk to email address of Darnhall's clerk to Cllr. Scott

Road Safety

RS Working Group Progress

Cllrs. Wilson, Lilley and Shaw had attended the first working group meeting. It is hoped that there will be 10 members, including a representative from the school. All the comments and actions from the open meeting have been prioritised and there are 2 areas which it has been decided to investigate first:

- How to discourage the use of Eaton Lane as a 'rat run'

- The possibility of a 20mph speed limit through the village

£3,445 has been provided from Cllr. Moore-Dutton's budget towards the Vehicle Activated signs and Cllr. Moore-Dutton was thanked for this. Cllr. Wilson is approaching the police commissioner for a contribution towards the rest of the cost.

It was agreed that the working group would exist for 6 months and then report back to the Parish Council. It's next meeting will take place on 3rd December.

Services

Electricity sub-station

In progress.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to progress

Youth/Social/Community

Play Zone

A new application has gone to WREN. This is for less than the original application and means that around £4,000 will need to be raised locally. The application will be decided in February. The leases have become an issue.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson and the Clerk to liaise regarding the heads of terms and contact our solicitor if required.

It was noted that the Youth Club is still attracting a good number of children.

14.11.06 Planning Matters

a) Applications since the last meeting:

14/04341/FUL & 14/04342/LBC – rear extension at Well House Farm

Resolved: that no objections but request that materials used are sympathetic to the existing building

14/04429/LBC – coffee shop/holiday let at Lower House Farm

Resolved: that no objections

14/04383/FUL – rear extension at 2 Whalley Drive Eaton

Resolved: that no objections

b) Decisions made:

14/01286/FUL – workshop at 1 Dogmore Lane, Rushton – Permitted

14/02531/FUL – replacement outbuilding at Yew Tree Farm - Permitted

c) Other

It was noted that the planning department has decided that the conversion of the agricultural building to residential at Owlsote requires a full planning application.

Cllr. Scott pointed out his belief that the building has never been an agricultural building.

Resolved: that Cllr. Moore-Dutton to enquire why the planning department are assuming this is an agricultural building.

Cllr. Scott raised the colour of the pointing at Oak Tree Farm.

Resolved: that the Clerk to report to planning enforcement and copy Cllr. Moore-Dutton

14.11.07 Highways

Winterford Lane Footpath

Cllrs. Wilson and Lilley are to meet with Weaver Vale Housing Trust on Friday to discuss the steps. It was re-iterated that the Parish Council will not provide funding for these or take possession of the land.

Flooding on Sapling Lane

Although some improvement has been made there is still work to do here.

Resolved: that this will be reviewed in April 2015.

14.11.08 Correspondence

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

SENDER	DATED	DETAILS	ACTION
Active Cheshire	16/10/14	Details of available grants	No further action
Cheshire Comm Action		Invitation to AGM for 19 th November	Noted
Cheshire Fire Service	04/11/14	Annual Consultation	No comments
CHALC	07/11/14	Nominations for NALC smaller councils committee	No nominees

14.11.09 Finance Matters

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
None				

14.11.10 Quality Parish Scheme

On hold.

14.11.11 External Meetings

Cllr. Wilson had attended the CHALC AGM and reported back. The annual report was available for Councillors to read.

Cllr. Wilson had also attended the Cheshire Playing Fields AGM who are struggling for funding at present.

14.11.12 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 15th December 2014 at 7.30pm in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

14.11.13 Any Other Business

It was noted that the church wall will be rebuilt w/c 8th December. The work has been done because the wall was collapsing due to tree roots and blocked road gutters. Highways have agreed to provide traffic lights and also to tarmac to prevent water damage in the future.

Cllr. Roberts enquired about the safety of the numerous signboards at the Junction of Oulton Mill Lane and the A49 at Cotebrook which clearly impede visibility from Oulton Mill Lane. It was agreed that the clerk would raise this with Utkinton Parish Council.

Cllr. Roberts also stated that he had raised the fact that the cross roads ahead sign at the approach from Beech Lane to the junction of Brownhills Road and Oulton Mill lane has been removed by someone obviously damaged, Contact has been made with Karl Farrow of Highways to sort out and replace.

Cllr. Shaw enquired about the Eaton sign in Sapling Lane. A new sign has been ordered by Highways.

It was agreed to put the Community Pride Competition on the January agenda and to invite two local judges, Colin Lloyd and Ken Parker, to discuss.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____