

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall
on Tuesday 16th November 2021 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs. Neil Thompson, Graham Sime, Ed Shaw, Philip Hodgson

In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk)

21.11.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

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

Resolved: that Cllr. Thompson has a personal interest in Planning application 21/00650/FUL.

21.11.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 19th October 2021 be agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Hodgson

Seconded: Cllr. Sime

21.11.03 Public Speaking Time

21.11.04 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.

Currently a case officer has not been assigned to this site as the planning enforcement team are suffering a backlog. A site visit will be conducted in due course.

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.

Action -Letter to be written to CwAC.

Clerk

Old School House

The shed/garden structure at the front of the property was discussed at length and all councillors present felt that it was not detailed with in any of the planning applications or plans that have been previously submitted, and it is not in-keeping with the village. It is situated at the heart of the village and is attached to a building that is listed and does not enhance the property itself.

It is felt that this structure does not fall under the planning permission that has previously been granted and therefore the parish council have will notify the planning department with regards to this appeared breach of planning regulation.

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

21/03689/FUL

Location – Eaton Farm, Lower Lane, Eaton, CW6 9AN

Proposal – Reinstating existing entrance and minor alterations to brick store to create home gym.

The Parish Council has **No Objection** to the creation of a home gym and internal works within the yard. The Parish Council Objects to the reinstating of the existing entrance which lies within the Conservation area as detailed in the local Plan. The wall should be maintained to be in-keeping with the village and keep the integrity of the building from the roadside.

The Parish Council also have concerns about Road Safety if a new entrance was created so close to the primary school. There could be a way to achieve the goals of the applicant whilst utilising the existing entrance.

Proposed – Cllr. Thompson
Seconded – Cllr. Hodgson

21/03850/FUL

Location – Church Cottage, Royal Lane, Eaton, CW6 9AB

Proposal – Erection of gates to gateway.

The Parish Council has No Objection to erection of a gate at the gateway but would like to ensure the type of gate installed should be in-keeping with the property and the Conservation area.

Proposed – Cllr. Sime
Seconded – Cllr. Shaw

21/03851/LBC

Location – Church Cottage, Royal Lane, Eaton, CW6 9AB

Proposal – Erection of gates to gateway.

The Parish Council has No Objection to erection of a gate at the gateway but would like to ensure the type of gate installed should be in-keeping with the property and the Conservation area.

Proposed – Cllr. Sime
Seconded – Cllr. Shaw

21.11.05 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

The Highways dept have undertaken CCTV works on Sapling Lane and observed that a section of drain needed replacing, these works were carried out in October, so far this repair appears to be satisfactory, the parish council will assess the road over the winter months.

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, works will be carried out to repair the carriageway.

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 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. Clerk to chase the delivery team.

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.

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.

Police Surgeries – after a request from the new PC for more involvement with the community, there will be regular police surgeries at the Jessie Hughes on the following dates;

Friday 19th November 11.00 – 12.00 noon

Wednesday 15th December 5.00 -6.00pm

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.

21.11.06 Reports from Working Groups Communications

Newsletter Distribution

Thank you to Phil Allcock the editor of the newsletter for producing an interesting and informative newsletter for all the village to enjoy. Thanks must also go to Mike Wilson who distributes it electronically to villages and friends of Eaton as well as producing paper copies.

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.

Contact has been made with the wildflower seed company with regards to the seed mix used this year as it contained mainly yellows rather than the full mix previously experience.

The fruit trees are in need of a prune during the winter months.

Thank you to Cllr. Shaw for organising the hedges to be cut.

Moles have taken up residence on the picnic area, no rent will be taken from them just yet!!

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

Youth/Social/Community

Play Zone Project

The play zone sanitiser is checked regularly to ensure it is kept topped up. Signage is in place.

There has been some damage to the wooden structures and also shrinkage to wetpour floor. The damage has been reported to Creative Play (manufacturer) with concerns that the floor damage was not expected until at least year ten.

Creative Play have offered to undertake the repairs required at substantial reduction.

- Wooden damage to small activity unit (Clatterbridge walkway) replace for £495 +VAT
- Fixing for above £125
- Wood damage to large activity unity (Heartwood) – FOC
- Parasol Teens Bench – replace seat layer - £750 +VAT
- **Total £1370 +VAT 50/50 discount £685 +VAT Charge to Parish Council**
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- Wetpour Flooring- normal price £1250 +VAT for 5m2 or less
- Offer (Quote 21098 21/06/2021) is to repair 3m length free of charge.

Resolved – To place order with Creative play to undertake the repairs at a cost of £685 +VAT

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 and Parish Council will occur until the new agreement can be implemented.

Action - liaison until new agreement can be put in place. **Cllr. Thompson**

Village Green Phone Box

A quote has been received from a local company to replace the broken glass, sand all metal and re-paint. It was felt by all councillors present that the quote was quite large, and this could be undertaken by the community as a project.

Cllr. Sime will replace the glass.

To advertise for volunteers in the next newsletter.

21.11.07 Matters Arising

Vacancy

The Vacancy for Parish Councillor has been advertised through the noticeboard, newsletter and website. He role will be filled in January 2022.

Village Design Statement (VDS)

A meeting with the Village Design Group was held in June 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.

- Adopted holds more weight.
- VDS needs to be adopted/acknowledged and then reviewed periodically
- The VDS is a material consideration in the planning process
- Currently Eaton falls under the CWaC Local Plan
- A neighbourhood plan could be developed by incorporating the VDS, funding is available.

Actions

All councillors to review the VDS and look at the objectives and responsibilities within it. Going forward members of the VDS group will assist individually if their expertise is required. A vote will be undertaken in the January 2022 meeting.

Village Green Wall Repairs

The repairs to the wall have now been undertaken by the Contractor.

Corona Virus Buddy Update

The buddy system is still working well, thank you to all the angels who assisted over the past year.

Trees on the Green

Following the meeting with CWaC Tree Officer on Tuesday 29th June, Ryan McConnell has rejected the Parish Councils proposal to remove one tree from the village green.

Having viewed that the Tree officer may place TPO's on the trees if the Parish Council pursue the issue of tree removal further, all Councillors present accept the decision of CWaC and will undertake pruning work with approval under Conservation Area Permit.

Actions- gain new quotes for pruning the trees as those available were raised several months ago.

21.11.08 Correspondence

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

Reporter	Date	Description	Action	
Multi-Academy Trust	29/10/20 onwards	Use of MUGA by school when transferred to Multi-Academy Trust, new agreement to be created	Circulate to councillors	
Councillors	24/02/2021 onwards	Maintenance of trees on the green, emails between residents, contractors, and CWaC Tree Officer	Circulate to Councillors	
Creative Play	13/07/2021	Repairs to wet pour flooring	Circulated	
Member of Public	21/10/21	Concerns about the Oulton Mill Lane site	Concerns passed to Planning Dept	
Highways	21/10/21	Confirmed the United Utilities work on Oulton Mill Lane planned for the 25 th is to connect water to the Oulton Mill Site	Details passed to the Planning Dept.	
Member of Public	27/10/21	Trees on Green, will they be pruned before leaf fall	Circulated	
JHVI	27/10/21	Electricity costs have increased leading to small increase in hall fees over winter bills to assist	circulated	
Contractor	31/10/21	Phone box painting costs Materials £120, labour £250	Circulated	

21.10.09 Finance Matters

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

- Accounts for payment (below)

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
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JHVI	Hall Hire Sept and Oct 2021	£42.00		£42.00

Resolved - The Clerk to purchase a new printer.

21.11.10 External Meeting

Cllr. Thompson has undertaken training organised and run by Cheshire Association of Local Councils, the training looked at Planning and the role that local councils can take in the process.

21.11.11 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th January 2022 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

21.11.12 Any Other Business

A resident representative for the Oulton Park Liaison Group is required, if anyone is interested in joining the group, please e-mail rushtoncler@aol.com

Jubilee weekend, bank holiday weekend 2-5th June 2022.

Ideas for the village to take part in so far include.

Lighting a beacon

Vintage tea party

Planting trees

Pram race down Royal Lane

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:45pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____