

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall
on Tuesday 19th November 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. Ed Shaw, Graham Sime, Phil Hodgson, Paul Chrisp, Neil Thompson
In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Charles Hardy (Ward Councillor) Mike Wilson, Jan Freeman and UU representatives Jenna Seddon and Faith ?

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

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

Resolved: that Cllr. Hodgson has a pecuniary interest in Planning application 24/03135/PDQ.

24.11.02 **Minutes**

Resolved: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 15th October 2024 to be agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Sime

Seconded: Cllr. Hodgson

24.11.03 **Public Speaking Time**

United Utilities update

Line One on Sapling Lane complete, line two will be undertaken in the next few months, this will require closure of the road again. Once works complete, re-instatement of the road and wall will be undertaken, timetable for completion, summer 2025.

Cllr. Shaw talked about the access issues experienced

Cllr. Hodgson queried the likelihood of another burst like that experienced near the Red Fox. UU explained that the mobilisation of resources was very slow, and that there is a lessons learnt programme in progress to ensure that something similar should not happen again.

Jan Freeman and Mike Wilson

Village Green looks a mess, waterlogged. Need to excavate above the problem, systematically investigate the drainage and undertake repairs.

The Highways Drainage Plan and Utilities plan, what services are there and where are they?, Highways should be able to supply these.

Clerk already requested these and will chase with Highways.

Charles confirmed that Highways do not always have maps of all utilities.

Mike Wilson suggested that the water appears just above the telephone box and volunteers could undertake experimental holes with a spade.

Charles Hardy

Found meeting with Jamie Barron of Highways was very useful, but it appears that the information that he holds is not necessarily the same as what Parish Councils hold.

24.11.04 **Planning Matters**

1- To note planning decisions received.

None

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

24/00034/OUT

Location- Land opposite Baytree House, Royal Lane Tarporley,

Proposal – Erection of up to two self-build custom houses with access and layout included, and matters of scale, appearance, and landscaping reserved for future consideration. Comments given February 2024.

The Parish Council **Objects** to this Planning Application

Proposed – Cllr. Vertija

Seconded – Cllr. Sime

The full comments can be seen on a separate document.

Application under Appeal

Notification of a Planning Appeal –

Written Representations Site Address: Land Opposite Baytree House Royal Lane Rushton Tarporley

Description of development: Erection of up to two self-build custom houses with access and layout included, and matters of scale, appearance, and landscaping reserved for future consideration

Appellant's name: Mr Ken Roscoe

Planning or Enforcement ref: 24/00034/OUT

Planning Inspector ref: APP/A0665/W/24/3343139

Planning Inspector: Appeal reference: 24/00072/ND

Appeal start date: 4 June 2024

Comment before: 9 July 2024

The Parish Council re-iterates the Objection and comments that were previously submitted. Oct 24 -No further updates on the planning Portal or from CWaC Planning Dept.

Notification of a Planning Appeal –

Written Representations Site Address: Spinney Cottage, Lower Lane Rushton Tarporley, CW6 9AN

Description of development: Use of land to rear of Spinney Cottage as garden.

Appellant's name: Mr J Markham

Planning or Enforcement ref: 23/00961/LDC

Planning Inspector ref: APP/A0665/X/24/3344341

Planning Inspector: Appeal reference: 24/00077/REF

Appeal start date: 19 June 2024

Comment before: 31 July 2024

The Parish Council re-iterates the Objection and comments that were previously submitted Oct 24- No further updates on the planning Portal or from CWaC Planning Dept.

Notification of a Planning Appeal –

Written Representations Site Address: Land at Spinney Cottage, Lower Lane Rushton Tarporley, CW6 9AN

Description of development: Construction of one new dwelling

Appellant's name: Mr and Mrs J Markham

Planning or Enforcement ref: 22/02768/FUL

Planning Inspector ref: APP/A0665/W/24/3351355

Planning Inspector: Appeal reference: 24/000111/REF

Appeal start date: 16 October 2024

Comment before: 20 November 2024

The Parish Council re-iterates the Objection and comments that were previously submitted

24/03135/PDQ

Location- Land at The Hall Lane, Rushton, Tarporley,

Proposal – Prior Notification for the change of use of an existing timber framed agricultural building to a dwelling house with associated operational development

The Parish Council **Supports** this Planning Application

Proposed – Cllr. Thompson
 Seconded – Cllr. Sime

24.11.06 Highways

Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings

a. Highways Issues

village entry signs and road marking at the entrances to the village, images have been previously circulated of designs of signs. All councillors have looked at these and discussion held as to the design preferences.

Clerk and Cllr. Sime has liaised with Utkinton and Cotebrook Clerk regarding the installation of the new signs within their Parish, details have been received and circulated. Pricing will be obtained from this company and liaison regarding designs.

Jerry Gibbs (Highways) clarified the licences required for working on highways land. Highways confirmed that Rushton Parish Council own the signs and can update, maintain them as long as appropriate licences in place to do so.

Once proposal in place, to be sent to United Utilities to seek funding revenues.

Actions – prepare proposal and continue liaison with Highways and UU Cllrs Sime, Leslie and Vertija.

b. Road Safety Matters

The Parish Council are awaiting feedback and clarification from highways on several matters

1. The Hall lane, the speed signs are facing the wrong way and need turning correctly, Clerk has reported this, works order in place.
2. Lower lane, road marking have been renewed on Monday 14th October, on the same day notification was received that pothole repaired to be undertaken on 21st October outside the Primary School.
Parish Council has asked for full resurfacing to be undertaken before line painting, Highways have no provision to resurface. If evidence that Highways have previously committed to road surfacing, this can be re-addressed.
3. The road sign on the corner of Hickhurst and Dogmore Lane is broken, a works order is in place.
4. The road sign on the corner of Dogmore and Kings Lane is broken, a works order is in place.
5. The 30mph signs on Eaton lane are the wrong way around, a works order is in place
6. Oulton mill lane to Cotebrook junction, visibility is very poor especially in large vehicles, Highways do not believe there are any safety issues with this junction
7. Eaton Lane Drainage issues Curbing project at village green, residents would like to assist in the project. Funding options to be assessed.

Theres water flowing from the telephone box down the road, Unities Utilities have confirmed it is not chlorinated and therefore not a water leak. Clerk has already reported this to Highways as a likely drainage fault, Highways believe its just flowing from Higher Ground or even from the well. Clerk has contacted UU to ask how to proceed with this, who have confirmed there are no assets leaking within the village.

Parish Council to seek a meeting with Highways. Possible option is to place a drain along the edge of the green to capture all excess flow. Highways have visited the site on 15th October, believe its ground water, questions have been asked to help determine source and remedial actions.

Parish Councillors to attend site this Thursday to undertake initial investigatory work and engage with a drainage contractor.

8. Beech Lane Layby has a sign which is in need of replacement, a bin would also be a great asset to the layby. A school bus was observed having to reverse as they couldn't pull out of the layby due to the concrete posts and soil that have been deposited. The sign at the layby needs replacement and a new bin. Bin assessment undertaken but this site does not fit the criteria, further information requested to understand how decision was taken in a conservation area. Further bin assessments will be undertaken to determine whether a bin would be of benefit.
9. Sapling Lane, water running down both sides of road, created a ravine, water running into field, dangerous if two vehicles meet as the drop of the road is deep.
10. The hedge on Eaton Lane at the corner opposite the monument is overgrown, to approach homeowners to ask for the hedge to be cut back.
11. The 20mph signs on Winterford lane are the wrong way around, work order in place
12. The 20mph signs on Sapling lane are the wrong way around. Work order in place
13. Winterford Lane, Gully and drains are blocked, to report to CWaC.
14. Dogmore Lane fingerpost is broken, to determine ownership.

Scottish Power will close Eaton Lane from 18th November for 4 days for the connection of the street lights.

Highways have a new volunteering scheme, to enable working parties to undertake voluntary work. Highways insure the scheme and supply PPE. Cllr. Chrisp to be lead coordinator and apply for the scheme. This scheme will allow residents to undertake small projects such as turn around signs that have been turned by passing vehicles.

24.11.07 Reports from Working Groups Communications

Newsletter

Cllr. Chrisp is preparing the parish councils element of the newsletter. Thank you to Mike for his editorship and circulation. Mike will continue to undertake this role for this year, 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

Oulton Mill Picnic Area Project.

The Picnic Area bin has now being emptied by Street Scene. The site is being used regularly. All councillors agreed that 4 fruit trees should be purchased and planted in November.

The Parish Council and local birds would like to thank the mystery person who fills the bird feeders at the entrance to the picnic area.

Great thanks to Nick Rayner who is cutting the grass fortnightly.

Nick will cut the all hedges at the picnic area

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

Youth/Social/Community

Play Zone Project

Wet pour sealing repairs have been undertaken

More repairs are required, a new system of repair has been developed and hopefully this will be quicker and result in longer lasting repairs.

Thanks to the Play Zone floor repair team these repairs have been much better than those undertaken by Creative Play.

School side repair really good, but still a trip hazard to to right of entrance and area in the MUGA are lifting.

The 52 team are working well and we thank everyone involved in keeping the Play Zone a well maintained and enjoyable space for the children of the Parish.

Village Green

As detailed within Road Safety

The Jessie Hughes Village Hall centenary

The Jessie Hughes Village Hall will celebrate its centenary in 2026. In fact, Jessie Hughes laid the foundation stone on 6 September 1926 and the hall was open before Christmas!

The JHVH committee are keen for 2026 to be a great year of celebration and we are already thinking about some ideas for that year.

As with the Jubilee we think the best way forward will be to set up a small working sub group, a **centenary committee**, to plan and action things for the year. The plan is for the group to comprise JHVH Committee members, St Thomas Church, WI members and Cllr Chrisp representing the Parish Council.

First meeting is scheduled to be on 7th January in the Ron Chisnall Room at 7.30pm.

Matters Arising

In March 2024, Scottish Power undertook works to run the mains underground, this work centred around the centre of the village and Eaton lane. New street lights were installed between the village and along a small stretch of Eaton Lane towards Cotebrook, these lights have not been switched on.

Highways have met with SP Energies and with O'Connor Utilities, the road requires closure to enable the completion of the works, this will begin on 18th November 2024.

The footpath opposite the village green is overgrown, a short length of curbing is full of tall weeds growing out of the gutter and footpath.

The gullies are covered in weeds and rubbish, meaning that water cannot enter the system.

Clerk has reported to CwaC that the footpath is overgrown and the drainage system needs clearance before winter arrives. E-mail sent to highways. Thank you to the leaf clearance team for clearing this area of overgrown vegetation.

The main road (Eaton Road) through Eaton is covered by a “7.5 tonne accept for access” weight limit (signed from A49/Eaton Road & A49 Nantwich Road/Eaton Road junction). The weight limit does not cover agricultural vehicles.

Given the “accept for access” element it is worth noting that many vehicles observed may be using Eaton Road legitimately. Enforcement of this restriction would be a matter for the Roads and Local Policing Units within Cheshire Constabulary.

Remembrance Service

Members of the Parish council took part in the Remembrance Service and the laying of the wreaths at the monument, thank you to Cllr Leslie for leading this event and to everyone who took part in this important service for the village. Thank you to John and Jan Freeman and the Jessie Hughes Committee for the poppy display.

Leaf Clearance

The annual leaf clearance on and around the village green took place again this year, with members of the Parish Council assisting. Thank you to Cllr. Chrisp and Charles Hardy (Ward Councillor) and everyone who attended the leaf collection, with thanks also to Lynnette Lanni for providing refreshments after this annual village event and to James Billington of Street Care who has assisted the village with this event for 15 years

Data Protection

Mike Wilson, is the Parish Councils communications officer, he holds a lot of e-mail addresses, to assess whether it would be best for e-mails to be sent from a Parish council address

24.11.08 Correspondence

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

Reporter	Date	Description	Action
Highways	26/97/24 onwards	Issues in Eaton Update Jeff Powell SP did not connect street lights when installed, 6 weeks advertising needed	Circulated Eaton lane to be closed 18 th Nov to enable works to be completed
Highways	06/11/24 onwards	Road Closures on 18/11/24 Eaton Lane to enable SP to connect street lights	Circulated
Highways	07/11/24	Bin not available for Layby	Circulated, have e-mailed for further information & clarification
JHVI	17/10/24	Concern about hall use	Apology sent
Member of Public, councillors and church	28/10/24	Organisation of remembrance day	Circulated
Member of Public	05/11/24	Information requested about the position on the Outlon Park Liaison Group	Liaising with Cllr. Sime
Highways	05/11/24	Procedures received following the meeting on 15 th October	Circulated

24.11.09 Finance Matters

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

Cheque No.	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
1065	TP Construction Ltd	Take down VAS Pole and reinstate on opposite side of road	£640	£128	£768
1066	TP Construction Ltd	Wetpour flooring to entrance gate to MUGA	£420	£84	£504
Bank Transfer	Cheshire Community Action	Emergency first Aid Course	£50		£50
1068	JHVI	Hall Hire 17 Sept Ron Chisnall Room 15 th Oct £58.50	£79.50		£79.50
1069	Miss LR Worrall	Q3 Salary	£1146.60		£1146.60
1070	Miss LR Worrall	Q3 Expenses	£37.01	£7.41	£44.42

24.11.10 External Meeting

Outon Park Christmas Lunch – 9/12/24 at 12 for 12.30. David Lilley to organise

24.11.11 Any Other Business**Priorities for the Parish Council regarding Highways**

The road surface of Lower Lane is terrible and needs resurfacing.
 Sapling Lane, resurfacing once works complete
 Drains at bottom of the village green
 Cleaning of gullies and manholes
 Hickhurst Lane- road surface needs repairing

Eaton Village Police Surgeries

*Please note times and dates for next police drop in sessions. These are important opportunities to build relationships with our community police officers and share any issues. Note that while members of Cheshire Constabulary always intend to be present, they will understandably prioritise urgent call outs. Thank you for your understanding"

Nov 8th – 5pm

Dec 14th – 11am

24.11.12 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 20.50pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____