

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall
on Tuesday 17th October 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. Neil Thompson, Ed Shaw, Emma Leslie and Olga Vertija

In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Charles Hardy (Ward Councillor), Harry Caton, Ian McCoy (United Utilities) Joanne Nichols (Avoove) Morris Hunt resident, PC Gilcrest and PCSO Ferreira

23.10.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

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

23.10.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 19th September 2023 to be agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Sime

Seconded: Cllr. Shaw

23.10.03 Public Speaking Time

PC Gilcrest and PCSO Ferreira attended to ask for dates of all next years meetings and all councillors contact details.

Councillor Hardy has been contacted regarding the Vehicle Activated Sign on Lower Lane and the white lines on Lower Lane, both are in more detail in the Highways section.

Councillor Hardy has been contacted by a resident of Eaton Lane regarding the Lay-by near Beech lane. Cheshire Constabulary confirmed that this is the only place in Eaton that is assessed for Enforcement, if the layby was to close for any reason Cheshire Constabulary would not be able to undertake any speed checks within the area, it took 18 months to get this layby assessed and given a code to enable speed enforcement to be undertaken. The officers in attendance also believe the school bus use this as a pick up and drop off location.

The officers in attendance were concerned with the placement of the bollards in the layby and whether they are allowed to be there or whether Highways should remove them as they are on CWaC owned land and could potentially be a hazard to drivers especially as we get into darker nights or icy or snow conditions. Cheshire Constabulary asked the Clerk to ask the question to Highways

23.10.04 United Utilities – update on maintenance of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct

Avoove contractor undertraining maintenance

Siphon 1

Cleaning of pipe 3 is now complete

The slip lining of pipe 1 will occur between May 2024 and Sept 2024

The slip lining of pipe 2 will occur between Nov 2024 and March 2025

Temporary road closure will be required on Sapling Lane

Potential traffic management will be required along Royal Lane

Bridle way closure on Lightfoot Lane may be required, assessments and designs being undertaken to determine whether necessary.

Siphon 2

Oconnor Utilities are the contractors undertaking the maintenance in Siphon 2 from Alvanley Arms North.

A49 outside Alvanley Arms, traffic lights will be in place till January 2024 to enable access to the fields, the traffic management will only be used on the days that the contractors on site to ensure the A49 flows.

There will be some disruption in Delamere.

There will be monthly updates as the project advances as the slip lining activities will be more visible to the community, with greater utility presence within the parish.

Fliers will be distributed to households to broaden the communication of the slip lining operations.

Prior to works commencing there have been a lot of investigations that have included archaeologists on site, ecologists and monitoring of structures to ensure that no damage can occur during the works

23.10.05 Planning Matters

1- To note planning decisions received.

None

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

23/01876/LDC

Proposal: Existing use of land as a domestic garden

Location: Brownhills, Brownhills Road, Rushton, Tarporley, CW6 9BQ

The plans supplied appeared confusing and difficult to read along with the photographic evidence supplied.

The Parish Council require more information on the area marked blue on title deed CH170667.

The councillors would like to visit the site to get a greater understanding of the planning application.

Clerk has contacted planning Department, as of yet there hasn't been a case officer assigned to this planning application, once this happens they will contact the Parish Clerk and arrange a site visit.

23/02856/CAT

Proposal: Willow (T1) reduce the canopy by approx 2m and crown lift to 4m.

Location: The Orchard, Eaton Lane, Eaton, Tarporley, CW6 9AJ

The Parish Council has **no Objection** to this Planning Application –

Proposed – Cllr. Leslie

Seconded – Cllr. Vertija

23.10.06 Highways

Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings

a. Highways Issues

village entry signs images have been previously circulated of designs that could be used for the village entrances. All councillors have looked at these and discussion held.

The design and pricing of both the gates and signs has been obtained, before going ahead with this project the Parish Council has liaised with Highways.

Jerry Gibbs of Highways has 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.

An article appeared in the August newsletter to show the designs of the gates and signs to enable the parish to comment.

Councillors to review all details and decision to be made in October meeting

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

Purchase sign for direction to M6 north and South for placement near village green – Cllr. Leslie has undertaken a lot of work on this and selected the most appropriate sign for purchase.

Action – Select sign of. preference Cllrs. Sime, Leslie and Vertija

b. Road Safety Matters

The Parish Council are awaiting feedback and clarification from highways on several 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. The Clerk has asked for a timescales for this work. The 20mph on Eaton Lane is in the incorrect location, going from 20mph in the centre of the village to 30mph and then 40mph heading towards Cotebrook, it is apparent this does not occur in other villages and the Clerk has asked for the 20mph to be extended.
2. VAS On Lower Lane – was a community initiative to slow traffic on a narrow lane with no footpaths next to the busy primary school, unfortunately the VAS was on private land and now been removed, the unit has been taken down and safely stored and the pole has been removed by contractors with 'Street licence' to work on a Highway.
The Parish Council are working with the Ward Councillor, Highways and residents to find another suitable location on private land to relocate the VAS. The Parish Council acknowledges that there was and will continue to not be an legally enforceable agreement in place if the owner leaves the property where the VAS is positioned and is not longer in a suitable location.
An article was placed in the August newsletter to give the residents an update on the relocation process.
Cllr. Sime to liaise with resident and contractor to ensure that the VAS is re-installed into its new location as soon as possible.
3. The Oulton Mill Lane sign, located by the Picnic area was hit and damaged in the autumn, the damage was reported to Highways at the time but no actions taken. The sign has now disappeared. Clerk has reported this to Highways, no timescales for the replacement have been given.
4. Hall lane, the speed signs are facing the wrong way and need turning correctly, Clerk has reported this to Highways who will adjust the signage.
5. Lower lane, has no road markings in some areas due to the narrow nature of the road. Parish Clerk has contacted Highways to enquire whether road markings can be re-introduced.

23.10.07 Reports from Working Groups Communications

Newsletter

Articles for the November newsletter due by 28th October. Articles to include Oulton Park end of season and fireworks, the residents Christmas lunch. Remembrance day service, leaf clearance day to be November 25th 9-11, and also highlight the Police Surgeries that occur at the Jessie monthly.

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.

Update as pre Public Speaking

The Picnic Area bin has now being emptied by Street Scene. The site is obviously being used regularly.

Nick Rayner mows the grass every two weeks

Thank you to both for your continued support in keeping this community asset looking beautiful for the parish and visitors from afar.

At the last meeting it was discussed that the hedges were in need of trimming, it was agreed that Cllr. Shaw would undertake the task, upon arrival at the picnic area the hedges had been cut both inside and out. The clerk will send some e-mails to enquire who has undertaken the hedge cutting to ensure the Parish Councils gratitude and thanks is passed on.

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 backboard of basket ball net has become damaged.

Annual inspection Package 1 chosen, to be undertaken week beginning 20th October, Creative Play to contact Clerk week before to confirm date and time of the inspection.

Broadband

The Broadband for Hall Lane and outer areas of the Parish will be installed by April.

Along Kings Lane, the poles were removed 15 years ago, but no ducting put in place, 21 poles will now need installation, which will include 2 poles at the start of Kings lane and then underground to Park Wall before being.

Brownhills requires 4 poles, the road will be closed on the 18th November for installation

Dogmore will need to be closed for 5 days in April.

Well done to everyone who has worked hard to get this project off the ground.

Matters Arising

Councillor Vacancy

Cllr. Suzanne Hincliffe has moved out of the Parish and is standing down as a Parish Councillor. The four years in which Cllr. Hincliffe has been a part of Ruston Parish Council has many changes and many achievements, Covid, meetings via zoom, meetings via social distancing. Village fun days, platinum jubilee and a coronation to name just a few things that have occurred. Cllr Hincliffe leaves us when she has just delivered the village entrance project to a point when the signs can be ordered.

Thank you so much for your valued contribution to the Parish and good luck with your new home.

Anyone interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk, Lindsey Worrall at rushtonclerk@aol.com

23.10.08 Correspondence

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

Reporter	Date	Description	Action	
Ward Councillor	19/09/23	Cheshire Crowd study, Tilston Parish Council receive funding for an accessible footpath	Circulated	
Clerk and Councillors	06/10/23	Hedge cutting at picnic area, already undertaken	circulated	
Member of	10/10/23	Scaffolding to be erected at	circulated	

Public		Sapling Cottage, cobbled driveway will not be available as a passing place for two weeks		
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23.10.09 Finance Matters

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
Tarporley Poppy Appeal	Remembrance donation	40.00		40.00

23.10.10 External Meeting

11th October Oulton Park liaison Group discussed that the season was nearly complete having had successful weekends for the British Superbike meeting.

4th November is Rally day, the season finally with bonfire and fireworks at 6pm

11th December is the over 60's Christmas lunch, David Lilley will hopefully collect the details of everyone attending, between 50-60 residents from Rushton attend annually.

Oulton Park will undertake maintenance works on the remains of Old Hall to tell the story of the house and fire, there is no current input required from Rushton Parish Council.

23.09.11 Any Other Business

Eaton Village Police Surgeries

November – Tuesday 7th 6.00-7.00pm

December – Friday 8th 6.00-7.00pm

23.10.12 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st November 2023 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21:10pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____