

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall
on Tuesday 15th October 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. Emma Leslie, Ed Shaw, Graham Sime, Phil Hodgson, Olga Vertija, Paul Chrisp,
In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Charles Hardy (Ward Councillor) Derek Peel

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

Resolved: that the apologies from Cllr. Thompon be received and accepted.

24.10.02 **Minutes**

Resolved: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 17th September 2024 to be agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Shaw

Seconded: Cllr. Sime

24.10.03 **Public Speaking Time**

David Nicholas

David Nicholas gave a insight into the local history of Oulton park

During WW2 troops from Canada and the US, as well as the UK, were billeted around Rushton and Tarporley and trained at Oulton Park?

David is planning something big for next year. He'd love to hear from anyone who has stories or photos of the soldiers' stay in our area before they headed off to D-Day. He can be contacted at threadshistory1@gmail.com. There will be more on this topic in the next issue of the newsletter.

24.10.04

Allocations of individual responsibilities were discussed and allocated.

A- allocate individual responsibilities for specific business

B- appoint representatives to other organisations

Oulton Park Liaison – 2 reps.

Cheshire Assoc. of Local Councils (Vale Royal Area Group) - .

Parish Council Noticeboard

CHALC

Oulton Park Liaison

Litter Pickers

Footpaths

Communications

Development/Planning/Environment

Services

Youth/Social/Community

- Picnic Area - Chair Neil Thompson

- Play Zone -

- Facebook -

- Newsletter -

Clerk

Members as available

Cllrs. Shaw/Sime

Members as available

Cllr. Chrisp

Cllrs. Thompson

Cllrs Leslie

Cllr. Thompson/Clerk

Cllr. Shaw

**Cllr. Shaw hedge
maintenance.**

Cllr. Vertija

Cllr. Vertija + another

Mike Wilson + Cllr. Chrisp

24.10.05 **Planning Matters**

1- To note planning decisions received.

None

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

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.

No further updates since February 24

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.

24/02801/TPO

Location- Laurel House, Eaton Green, Eaton Lane, Eaton, Tarporley, CW6 9AE

Proposal – Removal of Mature diseased Copper tree

The Parish Council has No Objection to this Planning Application

Proposed – Cllr. Sime

Seconded – Cllr. Chrisp

24.20.06 Highways

Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings

Before the parish council meeting, we had the opportunity to meet with Jamie Barron from the Highways department at CWaC. The meeting, which was arranged by Tarporley Ward Councillor Charles Hardy, was attended by representatives from our neighbouring parishes of Tarporley, Utkinton and Cotebrook and Little Budworth, and was intended to improve communication between parish councils and CWaC.

There was robust discussion and it was good to understand how CWaC selects and prioritises what it fixes, when, and how. They get thousands of reports of damage, have a limited budget, so need a way to prioritise. Go to the website if you want to learn more:

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/transport-and-roads/highways>, click 'potholes and road faults', then click 'Highways safety inspection code of practice'. You can also use this site to report problems with potholes, grids and gullies, and streetlights.

CWaC is setting up a Highways Volunteer Scheme which we'll be looking into as it will allow the Parish to tackle small jobs with CWaC's support and covered by their insurance. That should help us get onto those jobs that just seem to never get done.

In the immediate term, each parish council will submit its top priorities for things that need fixing for CWaC to consider. Our list is:

- The road surface of Lower Lane
- The road surface of Sapling Lane
- Cleaning of gullies and manholes
- Drainage of the village green

We intend this to be the start of ongoing 2-way communication between Highways and the parish councils, so that we can have input into the issues that we as residents see as priorities

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.

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 nad remedial actions
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.
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 homeowner 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.

24.10.07 Reports from Working Groups Communications

Newsletter

Newsletter articles required by 26th October,

Articles to be included;

- United Utilities update, attendance at next PC meeting to give update

Oulton Park History visit

Highways meeting

Remembrance service

Leaf clearance day and details

Oulton Park Laison Group residents member

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

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 be asked to 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.

The gates have been realigned

Dust pan and brush purchased

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 a representative from the Parish Council

First meeting is scheduled to be on Tuesday 22 October in the Ron Chisnall Room at 7.30pm.

Date of meeting to be rescheduled.

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.

On 15th August a traffic collision occurred between a tractor and HGV near to Eaton Green (previously Red Lion). It was reported that two tractors had been making 'relay runs along the road for two days at inappropriate speed' The collision occurred in the afternoon and the road was blocked between 2-3pm, with other road users having to turn around.

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.

Hedges

In previous years, residents roadside hedges have been cut using a tractor and hedge cutter, this will again be offered this year. The project will be lead by Cllr. Hodgson, anyone wishing for the

roadside hedge to be cut can contact Phil and it will be arranged that Nick Rayner will come and cut all hedges on one convenient day. A fee will be charged for this service, which will be determined on the number of people taking part and the size of hedge to be cut. To discuss this further please contact Cllr. Phil Hodgson on 07903 826515

Remembrance Service

Members of the Parish council will take part in the Remembrance Service and the laying of the wreaths at the monument.

Leaf Clearance

The annual leaf clearance on and around the village green will take place again this year, with members of the Parish Council assisting. The date is to be determined and further details will be circulated.

24.09.08 Correspondence

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

Reporter	Date	Description	Action
Member of Public	30/08/24 and 17/09/24	Street Lights not working on Eaton lane, footpath over grown Concerns of weight limits of vehicles using Eaton lane/ Photos of incident on Eaton lane	Circulated, reported to CWaC responded
Highways	08/04/24 onwards	20mph Royal Lane under consultation, works completed and a thank you sent	Circulated
JHVI	25/08/24	Keyholder information required	Completed and returned
Utkinton and Cotebrook PC	25/09/24	Information regarding the new entrance signs in the Parish	Circulated
Highways	17/07/24 onwards	Issues in Eaton Update 26/09/24 response from Jerry Gibbs	Circulated
Highways	26/09/24 onwards	Issues in Eaton Update Colin Rich- Parker. Layby at Beech Lane – bin assessment to be done	Circulated
Highways	26/09/24 onwards	Issues in Eaton Update Jeff Powell SP did not connect street lights when installed, 6 weeks advertising needed	Circulated
Highways	02/10/24	Road Closures on 09/10/24 The Hall Lane, Kings Lane, Dogmore Lane and Rushton Lane	Circulated
Highways	07/10/24	Bin not available for Layby	Circulated
UU	07/10/24	Update on maintenance programme and reopening of Sapling Lane	Circulated
JHVI	09/08/24	Jessie Hughes Village Hall centenary committee	on agenda
Member of Public	30/08/24	Street Lights not working on Eaton lane, footpath over grown Concerns of weight limits of	Circulated, reported to CWaC and to

		vehicles using Eaton lane	be discussed in meeting
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24.10.09 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

These invoices are significant, they do not provide a break down of materials and labour, therefore the Parish Councillors would request that a breakdown of the hourly rate and material costs are provided for these invoices.

24.10.10 External Meeting

Oulton park Liaison Group will meet on 15th October productive meeting.
Oulton Park Christmas Lunch – 9/12/24 at 12 for 12.30. David Lilley to organise

The liaison group have a vacancy for Residents liaison officer, if anyone would like to apply for this role, please e-mail the Clerk, Lindsey at rushtonclerk@aol.com

24.10.11 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"

Oct 25th – 10-am
Nov 8th – 5pm
Dec 14th – 11am

24.10.12 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th October 2024 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21:05pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

DRAFT