

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall
on Tuesday 21st September 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. Neil Thompson, Suzanne Hinchliffe, Graham Sime, Ed Shaw, Emma Leslie

In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Eveleigh Moore- Dutton (Ward Councillor),

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

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

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

21.09.02 **Minutes**

Resolved: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 20th July 2021 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr. Sime

Seconded: Cllr. Leslie

21.09.03 **Public Speaking Time**

21.09.04 **Matters Arising**

Councillor Wilson

Councillor Mike Wilson has taken the decision to stand down from the Parish Council after many years of active involvement.

Mike has most recently been working with the Police and Highways to continue to improve the safety of the roads within the village. Mike also was instrumental in the development of the Playzone and has overseen the maintenance of it since it opened 6 years ago, equally he has lead the Picnic area project planting the wildflower meadow and the orchard area which is enjoyed by many families. Mike and Mary have been the Parish Communication's team, cascading information out by e-mail and circulating the quarterly newsletter. These are just a few of the things Mike has been involved in, his knowledge and expertise will be greatly missed.

Vacancy

The Vacancy for Parish Councillor has been advertised through the noticeboard, newsletter and website.

A vote was undertaken during the September meeting of Rushton Parish Council, with Cllr. Moore-Dutton acting as the independent adjudicator, following the vote we are pleased to welcome Phil Hodgson onto the Parish Council.

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 and PC is more bound to content
- 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.

Village Green Wall Repairs

The repairs to the wall have not been undertaken due delays with the Contractor.

Action – Clerk and Cllr. Shaw to chase contractor

Clerk

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

Further to the minutes of the last meeting:

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.

Remembrance Wreath

The Parish Council two remembrance wreath's which are in good order, it was decided that an additional wreath was not needed this year but a donation of £30 would be sent to the Poppy appeal.

21.09.05

Planning Matters

1- To note planning decisions.

Oulton Mill Lane

Enforcement case has been opened for this planning permission.

The beauty spot has been spoilt. Need evidence that this is an agricultural activity to support the permission granted.

Would like Chief planning officer or senior planning officer to attend the next meeting to discuss how this site gained planning permission in the first place, it was a meadow and now it's rubble and containers.

21/02839/AGR

Location – Hill House Farm, Winterford Lane, Rushton, CW6 9

Proposal – General Agricultural Storage, Prior Approval Required (22.9m x13.9m x5m in Yorkshire boarding)

This planning application did not come to the parish council for comment before approval.

2- To consider response to planning applications received

21/03398/FUL

Location – The Cottage, Winterford Lane, Rushton, CW6 9AG

Proposal – Single Storey rear extension and render, addition of side window to first floor.

The Parish Council **Supports** this Planning Application –
Proposed – Cllr. Sime

Seconded – Cllr. Shaw

Applications received since the last meeting.

21.09.06 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.

A full list of the council's objectives can be found in the May 2021 Meeting minutes.

a. Highways Issues

Sapling Lane, the flooding issues are becoming worse with water visible on dry days. Mr Bert Platt has produced a document showing where he feels the efforts should be placed, Cllr Wilson has produced photographic evidence to show that the leak is a Highways Dept. issue and not Private issue along with details of how long the drains remain flowing once cleared by Highways operatives. This evidence will enable the Parish Council to prove that the leak is causing significant harm and danger and needs addressing.

The Highways dept have undertaken CCTV works on Sapling Lane and observed that a section of drain needs replacing, this will be undertaken as soon as possible.

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.

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;

Saturday 23rd October 7.00 -8.00pm

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.

21.09.07 Reports from Working Groups **Communications**

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 and do the now weekly mow.

Weekly mowing and removal of refuse continues.

The picnic area is being used well and the wildflower meadow has been successful with many users complimenting the wildflowers and the picnic area as a whole.

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 will repair a 3-metre section for free, discussions are on going regarding other damage.

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.

Contact has been made with the legal representatives who assisted with the agreement prepared in 2015.

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**

Annual Village Fun Day

This took place on Sunday 5th September, a committee from the Jessie Hughes Village Hall and Parish Council organised the event and assisted on the day. It was a very well attended event, the weather was spectacular and everyone had a lovely time. With special thanks to Mike and Mary Wilson and all the events team that made the day run smoothly and also to PSCO Jorge and PC Paul who joined in with the games.

21.09.08 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,	Circulate to Councillors	

		contractors, and CWaC Tree Officer		
Creative Play	13/07/2021	Repairs to wet pour flooring	Circulated	
Member of the public	08/08/21	Visited play area with daughter, lot of litter present including, paper cups, polystyrene food cartons all appeared to be from a take away.	Responded to member of public	Passed to Zone committee
Planning Dept	10/08/21	Planning appeal for The Old School House dismissed	Circulated to Councillors	
Member of public	18/08/2021	Earth retaining wall of field belonging to Ivy Cottage looks like it could give way in bad weather	Contacted current residents for details of owner	
Highways	20/08/21	Waiting for contractors to give date for CCTV works on sapling Lane. Reminder e-mail sent to gain date of works.	Circulated to councillors	
Enforcement	24/08/21	Oulton Mill Lane development, concerns from residents have been passed to enforcement team and case has been opened.	Circulated to councillors	
Enforcement	07/09/21	Acknowledgement letter regarding Oulton Mill Lane development	Circulated to councillors	

21.09.09 Finance Matters

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

- Accounts for payment (below)

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
Jessie Hughes Village Hall	Hall Fees July 21	£21.00		£21.00
L Worrall	Q 2 Expenses	£24.96	£5.01	£29.97
L Worrall	Q2 Salary	£917.28		£917.28

21.09.10 External Meeting

Oulton Park Liaison meeting was held on 25th August, season almost complete. Superbikes to be held this weekend (24-25th September).

The over 60's Christmas Lunch will be held on Monday 13th December; an article will be in the next newsletter with details of ticket availability.

MSV are willing to match fund a small project within the village.

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

21.09.11 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th October 2021 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

21.09.12 Any Other Business

Phone Box – needs painting and also there is a broken pane of glass.

Cllr. Sime to replace the glass, speak to Cllr. Wilson regarding who painted it last.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:00pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

DRAFT