

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall
on Tuesday 17th September 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. Ed Shaw, Graham Sime, Phil Hodgson, Olga Vertija, Paul Chrisp, Neil Thompson
(arrived late)

In Attendance: Lindsey Worrall (Clerk), Charles Hardy (Ward Councillor) Derek Peel

24.09.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

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

Resolved: that Graham Sime chair the meeting

24.09.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the 16th July 2024 to be agreed and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Shaw

Seconded: Cllr. Sime

24.09.03 Public Speaking Time

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.

Clerk has reported this to CWaC.

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 to be 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.

Charles

Still working to arrange a meeting with Highways, problem appears to be the way Highways prioritize work within the Parishes, need to improve communications with the Parish Councils and communities. The communities need to understand the rationale of their maintenance work.

PC to attend meeting once organised.

Town centres do receive much greater attention and money than the rural parishes.

Gullies are now being prioritised as the blockages are causing roads to become damaged and crack,

24.09.04

Allocations of individual responsibilities were discussed and will be allocated when all councillors attend.

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

Clerk

Members as available

Cllrs. Shaw/Sime

Members as available

Cllr. Chrisp

Cllrs. Thompson

Cllrs Leslie/+ 1

Cllr. Thompson/Clerk

Youth/Social/Community

- Picnic Area - Chair Neil Thompson

Cllr. Shaw

Cllr. Shaw hedge maintenance.

- Play Zone -

Cllr. Vertija

- Facebook -

Cllr. Vertija + another

- Newsletter -

Mike Wilson + another

24.09.05 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. Sept 24 -No further updates on the planning Portal or from CWaC Planning Dept.

Application: 24/00665/S73

Proposal: Variation of condition – removal of condition 5 (agricultural occupancy) on planning permissions 4/23618 and 4/23284 (condition 1 Of appeal APP/L0635/A/05/2005162)

Location: Grange House, Mill Lane, Rushton, Tarporley, CW6 9AS

An extension to the comments deadline has been requested

Case Officer has detailed the area affected by the agricultural tie.

The Parish Council has No Objection to this Planning Application

Proposed – Cllr. Sime

Seconded – Cllr. Leslie

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 Sept 24- No further updates on the planning Portal or from CWaC Planning Dept.

24.09.06 Highways

Outstanding Road Safety Issues from Previous Meetings

a. Highways Issues

village entry signs images have been previously circulated of designs of signs. 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 (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.

Clerk to contact Little Budworth to enquire about their new signs

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

Sapling Lane

To enable the United Utilities maintenance work to be undertaken Sapling Lane will be closed until 30th September 2024.

b. Road Safety Matters

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

1. 20 MPH signs - The 20mph sign on Royal Lane has now been moved to incorporate the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.
2. VAS On Lower Lane – has been maintained and reinstated.
3. The Oulton Mill Lane sign – has been replaced.
4. The Hall lane, the speed signs are facing the wrong way and need turning correctly, Clerk has reported this, works order in place.
5. Lower lane, has no road markings in some areas due to the narrow nature of the road. Highways will undertake new line paintings in due course.
Parish Council has asked for 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.
6. The road sign on the corner of Hickhurst and Dogmore Lane is broken, a works order is in place.
7. The road sign on the corner of Dogmore and Kings Lane is broken, a works order is in place.
8. The 30mph signs on Eaton lane are the wrong way around, a works order is in place
9. 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
10. 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.
11. 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, Highways to be asked to supply these.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. The 20mph signs on Winterford lane are the wrong way around, work order in place
15. The 20mph signs on Sapling lane are the wrong way around. Work order in place
16. Winterford Lane, Gully and drains are blocked, to report to CWaC.

24.09.07 Reports from Working Groups **Communications**

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 be asked to cut the all hedges at the picnic area

Hedge by layby has been carefully cut as currently very overgrown and encroaching layby, thank you to Mike Wilson for this.

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

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.

Matters Arising

24.09.08 Correspondence

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

Reporter	Date	Description	Action
Highways	08/04/24 onwards	20mph Royal Lane under consultation	Circulated
Member of Public	27/05/24	Village Green water issues and village green bed. Clerk e-mailed UU and Highways	Circulated, Clerk to do works on bed
UU	10/06/24	UU confirm no leaks to assets within the Eaton area	Circulated
Highways	17/07/24	Issues in Eaton Update	Circulated
Planning	22/07/24	Edgewell lane disabled bay application, no issues	Circulated
Councillors and Members of Public	28/07-05/08/24	Play Zone working Group Summer clean	Circulated
UU	02/08/25	Update on maintenance programme and dates for Sapling Lane closure	Circulated
JHVI	09/08/24	Jessie Hughes Village Hall centenary committee	on agenda
CWaC	14/08/24	CIL Report needed by end Sept	Clerk to undertake
UU	28/08/24	Sapling Lane to remain closed till 09/09/24	Circulated

Member of Public	30/08/24	Street Lights not working on Eaton lane, footpath over grown Concerns of weight limits of vehicles using Eaton lane	Circulated, reported to CWaC and to be discussed in meeting
SBA	02/09/24	Exempt status confirmed	Filed and to be cascaded to Councillors

24.09.09 Finance Matters

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

Cheque No.	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
1061	Mike Wilson	Play Zone Repair kit plus paper for newsletter	£260.52	£50.81	£311.33
1062	L Worrall	Q2 Salary	£1146.60		£1146.60
1063	L Worrall	Q3 Expenses	£29.97	£6.00	£35.97
1064	JHVI	Hall Hire July 24	£21.00		£21.00

24.09.10 External Meeting

Oulton park Liaison Group will meet on 15th October

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

24.09.11 Any Other Business

Priorities for the Parish Council regarding Highways

The road surface of Lower Lane is terrible and needs resurfacing.
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

24.09.12 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th October 2024 at 7:30pm at the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 20:44pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____