

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING OF RUSHTON held at JESSIE HUGHES VILLAGE HALL on TUESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs. M.Wilson (Chairman), D. Lilley, A. Nicholas, J. O'Shea, E. Shaw

**In Attendance:**

A.Stubbs – Parish Clerk plus circa 15 Parishoners  
Charles Baillie – Ranger at CWAC  
Tony Clare – Cheshire Community Action  
Paul Chrisp – Footpath Officer

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Roberts and Scott.

**2. Chairman's Report**

Cllr. Wilson welcomed all those who were present.

**3. Minutes**

The minutes of the last Parish meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2013, were signed off in the Parish Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

**4. Matters Arising**

None

**5. Chairman's Annual Report**

**Please note that the official Annual Report is now posted on the Parish Website**

The Chairman introduced the members of the Parish Council and presented his annual report which included details of:

The results of the Cheshire Community Pride competition where the Parish was awarded:

- Highly Commended Certificate in the Community Spirit Award
- Runner up for the Best Community Website
- Little Gem award for the Village Notice Board and Well
- Community Champion Award for Mike Wilson

Communications

- Village website ([www.eatonandrushton.org.uk](http://www.eatonandrushton.org.uk)) – there is now a project to re-structure this
- Newsletter going out quarterly to dwellings in the Parish and via email
- Superfast Broadband – Council chasing to make sure parish is not left behind

Environment and Development

- Many planning applications dealt with
- Looking at requirement for Affordable housing within the village
- Many improvements to the village green
- Currently addressing the issue of the Millpool picnic area
- Paul Chrisp gave a report on the state of the footpaths in the parish
- A new tree has been planted in Kings Lane
- A new village sign purchased by the Council has been erected at the Tarporley end of the village

Road Safety for All

- Phase 1 of the Road Safety plan has now been implemented by Highways which involves new signage and speed limit zones.
- Phase 2 to include flashing lights still under consideration.

Services

- New sub-station – alternative site on Edgewell Lane has now been agreed but there is still very slow progress on this by Scottish Power.
- Drains – Cllr. Scott has been working with Highways on problem areas, in particular Hall Lane and Sapling Lane. Thanks were also given to landowners for their help.
- Roads – residents are encouraged to report all problems using the on-line system on the CWAC website.
- Grit Bins – 3 new bins have been provided and filled by the Parish Council and are green in colour.
- Lay-Bys – new signs have been installed encouraging the removal of litter.
- Winterford Lane Steps – a project is now on-going to construct a set of steps from the high level footpath on Winterford Lane down to the road.

#### Youth and Social

- Youth club now set up and running at the school with control handed over to a management committee but financial help given by the Parish Council.
- A play area and MUGA is to be constructed and shared between the Parish and the school. Planning permission and grants have been applied for.
- There was report from the Village Fun day held in September 2013 and the date for this year, Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September, was confirmed.
- Oulton Park was discussed and it was agreed that most events caused little disruption. The problems caused by the Mercia ETAPE cycle race were outlined and it was also confirmed that this event would not take place next year.

#### Finances

The precept has not been raised this year and the Council is carrying forward £6,121 to next year. It is hoped that the Play Area will be mostly funded by grants.

#### Projects going forward

Website Development  
 Broadband upgrade  
 Sub-station  
 Road safety – installation of flashing signs  
 Drainage improvements  
 Play zone

Finally the Chairman emphasised that many of the Projects will require help from the Community.

### **6. Matters Raised by Electors in Attendance**

There was a discussion on the future of the Millpool picnic area as CWAC do not have the manpower to open and close the gate. Ideas included allotments and also creating a barrier between the car park and the picnic area itself.

Tony Clare from Cheshire Community Action gave a talk on Community Land Trusts where parishes buy land and build their own affordable housing.

The problem of getting to the village Hall was raised and it was proposed that a footpath is investigated. It was agreed to add this to the agenda.

Finally concerns were raised that the Shuttle bus is to be taken out of service and it was agreed that this provides a valuable service to parishioners. The problem has already been raised with our ward councillor, Eveleigh Moore-Dutton, but this will be chased up.

Finally the Parish Council were thanked for all their efforts and the meeting closed.