

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING OF RUSHTON held at JESSIE HUGHES VILLAGE HALL on TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Cllrs A. Nicholas, J. Plumbley, J. O'Shea, S.Roberts, E. Shaw, M. Wilson

**In Attendance:**

A.Stubbs – Parish Clerk plus 8 residents  
PC Wayne Thomas – Cheshire Police

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Thompson and also from the following residents:

Gill Dennett, Jan and John Freeman, Paul and Hilary Healey, Amanda Harries, Lynette Lanni

**2. Chairman's Welcome**

Cllr. Shaw welcomed all those who were present.

**3. Minutes**

The minutes of the last Parish meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015, had already been signed off and were noted.

**4. Matters Arising**

None

Cllr. Shaw introduced PC Wayne Thomas who is the beat police officer for our area. It was pointed out by Cllr. Wilson that we don't see so much of PC Thomas and also PCSO Williamson as we don't have many problems that require attendance. PC Thomas outlined the best ways to communicate with the police force:

999 for emergencies

101 for non-emergencies but issues that require a response

Email PC Thomas or PCSO Williamson (email addresses on noticeboards) for on-going issues

Cllr.Shaw thanked PC Thomas for his attendance.

**5. Chairman's Annual Report**

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

Cllr. Wilson, the Vice-Chairman, presented the annual report.

Communications

- New website still being worked on with new links being added for parish organisations.
- Newsletter going out quarterly to dwellings in the Parish and via email. This is now being professionally printed with the cost shared between the Parish Council and the Village Hall.
- Superfast Broadband – Now available in Tarporley but no firm plans to implement in Eaton. The Parish Council is investigating alternatives.
- Rural Parishes meeting – new initiative to bring together the local Parish Councils to discuss common issues.

Environment and Development

- A new initiative was to co-ordinate hedge cutting for residents and this exercise is to be repeated this year.
- Gill Dennett has volunteered to take over as dog warden following the departure of Linda Fosbrook.
- Mary Wilson has taken over as litter co-ordinator and is reviewing the list of volunteers.
- It is hoped to curb the edge of the village green to stop it being churned up. We will be looking for volunteers to assist with this.
- The Parish Council now own the picnic area by the Millpool and is investigating possibilities to return it to an old-fashioned picnic area. A lottery grant has been applied for.

- The leaf collection on the village green continues to be successfully carried out with over 30 volunteers helping.

#### Road Safety for All

The working group is pursuing the following objectives:

- 20mph speed limits on Lower Lane, Edgewell Lane and Winterford Lane.
- Traffic calming measures on Eaton Lane to slow traffic through the village.
- Restricted parking around the play zone.
- A possible walkway to the village hall.

#### Services

- New sub-station – after working on this for 5 years plus, this has now been installed to provide a stable service for the village and also many overhead cables have been removed. It is hoped to remove more overhead cables as part of the next phase of the project (planned for next Spring).
- Flooding on Sapling Lane – It is thought this is due to a collapsed drain which is being investigated.
- As part of the sub-station project, many street lamps which were attached to electricity poles had to be replaced. After consultation with residents, new lamps were chosen and are currently being installed.

#### Youth and Social

- The annual fun day was held in September and was a great success.
- The youth club is going from strength to strength.
- The play zone and MUGA was installed and opened this year providing a great new facility for the parish.

#### Finances

As there was an increase in the precept last year, it has been agreed not to raise the precept for this year.

Finally the Vice-Chairman emphasised that many of the Projects will require help from the Community and thanked all those who do volunteer throughout the year.

A full copy of the Annual report will be published on the website.

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

A query was raised by an elector as to why the Extra-Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council which had taken place in February, was held in secret. The clerk replied that it had been open to any members of the public as usual and had been advertised in the same way as Ordinary meetings. The meeting had been held to discuss the planned expansion at the school and was an additional meeting due to time constraints on the school planning application.

#### **7. Any Other Business**

None

The meeting was closed at 7.50pm.