

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the JESSIE HUGHES VILLAGE HALL on MONDAY 16th March 2015 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. D. Lilley, A.Nicholas, J.O'Shea, S. Roberts, M. Scott, E. Shaw, M. Wilson (Chair)

In Attendance: A. Stubbs (clerk) Cllr. E. Moore-Dutton (CWAC)
 Mr. B. Platt
 Mr. D. Furness
 Ms. P. Cook
 Mrs. J. Plumbley

15.03.01 Apologies for Absence and Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

There were no apologies and no disclosures of interests.

Nial Casselden from Cheshire West and Chester Council planning department had been invited to discuss planning application matters with the Parish Council but had to postpone at short notice due to family commitments.

15.03.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16th February 2015 be agreed and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr. O'Shea, seconded Cllr. Roberts and all agreed.

15.03.03 Public Speaking Time

Residents had attended to discuss the requirement for 'affordable' housing in the parish and what this definition actually meant. It was agreed that this agenda item be brought forward. The current Cheshire West and Chester consultation on the identification of local service centres was also discussed.

Cllr. Wilson outlined the history of the agenda item including:

- A small amount of development had been looked on favourably in the Parish Plan.
- Residents had attended the January meeting to request more housing in the parish that could be afforded by young families.
- Cllr. Wilson had attended the 'Meet the Developers' day last week and realised that many Parish Councils were being very active in this area.

The definition of 'affordable' housing was discussed and agreed generally to be:

- Land purchased at a lower price than market value housing land
- Possible use of a lower cost design
- Shared ownership
- Must stay affordable in perpetuity so less advantage from increasing house prices

Following some discussion it was agreed that issues need to be clarified outside a Parish Council meeting. Therefore, a working group to be set up. This would put a proposal forward to the April meeting of the Parish Council including clear terms of reference for further work. It was agreed that all councillors would be invited to the initial meeting which would be held as soon as possible.

15.03.04 Matters Arising

Picnic Area

Cheshire West and Chester Council are to issue a Statement of Truth to the Land Registry to clarify the ownership of the area. It was noted that the recent planning application for 5 properties at the Millpool Restaurant may have an effect on the picnic area.

ACTION – with Cllr. Roberts

Plaque for trees on Kings Lane/Edgewell Lane**ACTION – With Cllr. Scott to progress**Path to the Village Hall

A quotation of £2,980 (including contingency) has been received from Highways with £1,500 being donated from the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

Resolved: that this quotation be agreed with the Parish Council putting forward £1,480. If the contingency amount is unused this will be split 50/50 between the Parish Council and the village Hall.

ACTION – Clerk to draft letter to adjoining residents explaining what is planned for their approval.

Provision of affordable housing

Discussed earlier

Red Lion Pub

No response from developer. It was noted that the building has now been demolished.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to keep chasing

Succession Plan for current projects

Several potential councillors have now indicated that they are prepared to be nominated and nomination forms have been delivered to them.

Election process and dates

It was noted that the Election notice will be published on 20th March with nominations having to be delivered by 9th April. The clerk agreed to deliver these to the Elections Office. Following the election, the May Parish Council meeting, Parish Council annual general meeting and Parish meeting all need to take place.

Resolved: that all 3 meetings will be scheduled for Tuesday 19th May starting at 7.15pm and using the main hall in the Jessie Hughes Institute.

15.03.05 Reports from Working Groups**Communications**Website

Work has begun on populating the new website.

Newsletter

February issue now distributed and the next issue will be in May.

Superfast Broadband

Andrew Arditti from Connecting Cheshire and also some residents from Little Budworth are to attend the April Parish Council meeting.

Development/Planning/EnvironmentVillage Green

It was noted that the area where the old steps were is to be sown with grass seed. Also, the kerb on the green to be put back on the next agenda.

Road SafetyRS Working Group Progress

The Vehicle Activated sign has been ordered and discussion is taking place with Oulton Estate regarding it's positioning.

ServicesElectricity sub-station

No programme provided by Scottish Power.

ACTION – Cllr. Wilson to chase

Youth/Social/Community

Play Zone

The lease for the land is progressing. It was noted that 2 councillors need to sign the leases and to do this they need to provide identification to the solicitor. Also, that we are still awaiting the response from WREN.

Resolved: that Cllrs. Wilson and O'Shea to sign the lease

15.03.06 Planning Matters

a) Applications since the last meeting:

15/00512/OUT – demolition of restaurant and construction of 5 dwellings

Resolved: that the Parish Council have no objections to development of the restaurant site where 3 properties are planned but have concerns regarding the other 2 properties which may lie in open countryside. Also, due to the prominence of the site, the Parish Council would like to development in sympathy with the existing buildings.

15/01019/FUL – amendments to planning permission at Stone Cottage, Sapling Lane

Resolved: that the Parish Council would seek the views of the conservation officer as this is in a conservation area and is prominent on the approach to the village.

b) Decisions made:

None

c) Other

With regards to the proposed caravan site at Eaton Fisheries which will go before the Planning Committee, it was noted that Alpraham Parish Council have put in an objection. We have not received a date for the committee yet.

A Consultation on the Allocation of Local Service Centres has been received.

ACTION – Cllr. Scott to report back to the April Parish Council meeting.

15.03.07 Highways

It was noted that on the approach to Cotebrook along Eaton Lane, the speed limit sign has been twisted round.

ACTION – Clerk to report

15.03.08 Correspondence

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

SENDER	DATED	DETAILS	ACTION
Martin Eaton Cheshire Police	20/02/15	Reply to query re drug use in Parish	Noted
Cheshire Community Action		Newsletter	Noted

15.03.09 Finance Matters

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
Mike Wilson	Expenses	36.57	6.03	42.20
St Helens Church	Newsletter copying	36.72		36.72
Alex Stubbs	4 th quarter salary	426.97		426.97
HMRC	4 th quarter PAYE	106.60		106.60
Mike Wilson	Refund for community pride competition	28.00		28.00
Arthur J. Gallagher	Youth club insurance	88.71		88.71

15.03.10 Quality Parish Scheme

Now re-issued as the Local Council Award Scheme which is being investigated.

ACTION - Clerk

15.03.11 External Meetings

Cllr. Lilley reported back from the Oulton Park Liaison Group. Village's day will be held on 21st June. Carfest is to take place again this but a traffic working group is being set up to which the Parish Council will have input.

It was noted that a Vale Royal meeting of CHALC will take place on 26th March at Darnhall Village Hall.

15.03.12 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday, 20th April 2015 at 7.30pm in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall.

15.03.13 Any Other Business

Cllr. Wilson confirmed that the Community Pride entry has been sent in..

PC Ged Gigg has urged all residents to report any suspicious gatherings on telephone number 101.

Weaver Vale Housing Trust have given an estimate of £6,400 for the Winterford Lane Steps of which they are prepared to pay 50%. Cllr. Wilson to consult with Steve Perry.

Cllr Wilson pointed out that CWAC has advised of certain cycling events taking place in Cheshire which do not require road closures or even notification. The first affecting our Parish is on 29th March with cyclists entering via Brownhills Road and exiting via Dogmore Lane and Hickhurst Lane without coming through the village. Details of such events can be seen on the Cycling Sportive website.

Cllr Wilson advised and invited all present regarding the AGM of our St Thomas Church taking place the following evening 17th March. The community, whilst wanting to have a village church, should be aware that over £12k per annum has to be raised locally.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____