**Minutes of the Meeting of Rushock Parish Council**

**Held on Thursday, 18th May, 2017 at Rushock Village Hall at 7:56pm**

**Present:**

Cllr. T. Green, (TG) (Chairman)

Cllr. D. Cutler (DC) (Vice-chairman)

Cllr. L. McCurrich (LMc)

Cllr. R. Hampshire (RH)

Cllr. G. Wilson (GW)

Cllr. T. Jennings (TJ)

Cllr. J. Nicholls (JN)

**Also Present were:**

The clerk Mr. Marcus Hart (MJH), District Cllr. S. Williams (SJW) (until 8:37pm), and the lengthsman Bill Waldron (BW).

**1.Apologies for Absence:**

None.

**Apologies were also received from:**

District Councillor Ian Hardiman and PCSO Becky Ruston.

**2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

None.

**3. Public Question Time:**

None.

**4. Minutes:**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th January, 2017 were duly approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

**5. Progress Reports:**

None.

**6. County Councillor’s Report:**

Cllr. Marcus Hart, the newly elected Councillor gave a report and reported as follows:-

Elections for all 57 seats on Worcestershire County Council took place on 4th May and the political makeup is as follows:-

40 Conservative

10 Labour

3 Liberal Democrat

2 Green

1 Independent

1 Health Concern

Full Council will be on 25th May, where Council will appoint its chairman, leader of the council and other committee chairman and the leader will announce his cabinet.

**7. District Councillor’s Report:**

Cllr. Stephen Williams gave the report on behalf of the Wyre Forest Rural (WFR) team and reported as follows:-

WFDC will no longer make nominations to WFCH. This is because the constitution of WFCH has changed. WFDC councillors, can still be elected to boards or committees themselves as community members.

WFDC is setting up a temporary accommodation facility for homeless families and single persons in New Street, Stourport. The building will accommodate 11 bedsit style rooms providing short term accommodation to reduce the Council’s use of bed and breakfast.

WFDC has welcomed confirmation that they will receive a share of Central Government investment funding for Worcestershire, which will enable specific traffic congestion relief for the Churchfields/Horsefair masterplan in Kidderminster.

WFDC is continuing discussions with the owners of Crown House to find a long term solution for this site.

LMc asked a question regarding why WFDC had to provide B and B and SJW responded indicting that WFDC had certain statutory duties in providing accommodation to those who are homeless and this was a temporary measure until permanent accommodation is found.

**8. Police Report:**

None as there was no representative present.

**9. Velo-Birmingham:**

TG gave an oral report that he had been in regular email contact with them and raised a number of issues pertinent to Rushock, for example access to dairy farms, pedestrian safety in Clattercut Lane and traffic control across Clattercut Lane at Elmbridge Lane and Lunnon Lane.

TG advised that Velo-Birmingham are working on the route risk assessment. There was a lengthy discussion in respect of this matter and there was a range of views made by Parish Councillors during the discussion. It was agreed that, if it became necessary, and WCC were going to progress to formal statutory consultation, that a letter be prepared by the clerk and circulated to PC’s in advance for sign off to be submitted as the PC’s response.

**10. Rushock Village Hall:**

JN reported on this matter, in particular the inactivity of the old committee. JN reported that at the AGM on 30th March, there was a room full of people. A new committee has now been elected. JN is on the committee as the Parish Council representative and there are 8-9 members on the committee. The new committee are meeting monthly. There was a successful cheese and wine event held recently. JN stated that he is very pleased with the progress.

The floor is a major issue, albeit there are mixed opinions. A specialist report says it needs to be removed and replaced. LMc stated that the PC owed JN a vote of thanks and this was duly agreed.

**11. Localism Grant Update:**

The PC received its 16-17 payment in January in the sum of £750 and we need to move forward with spending it. It was agreed to make progress and investigate having a Church sign in the village triangle and one at Hill House Farm, signposting the church. LMc will discuss the proposals with the PCC and also to discuss the plaque.

**12. Planning:**

The PC appointed JN, DC and TG councilors to serve on the planning committee for 2017-2018.

The planning schedule was circulated and discussed and this was duly noted. There have been 6 applications since the last meeting.

MJH reminded the PC that the applicants for The Dell, had appealed WFDC’s decision to refuse their application for an Orangery and a decision has now been made and the appeal has been allowed.

John Baggott, DC Manager at WFDC attended a joint training session between Broome PC and Rushock PC at Broome Village Hall on 23rd March.

**13. Flag Flying Ceremony – 19th June, 2017:**

Cyril Savage does not wish to attend this year. TG asked if anyone wanted to attend the event. There were no takers. LMc said that when it was held at Wyre Forest House it was a little sterile.

**14. Highways:**

JN reported that it has been a quiet time. BW has visited all the grips since the last meeting. No issues with drainage due to the dry weather.

The verges on Park Lane have now been done and he is pleased with what has been achieved. JN said that we must make a decision as to whether to do a further stretch.

JN said that resurfacing work had taken place but the camber was now out of the road, at Purshall Green Lane and there was a 6 inch step off the tarmac.

JN said that New Farm Lane from the A442 to the Rushock triangle desperately needs attention with resurfacing.

JN reported that the hedge from Clattercut House to Leylands Farm is stretching out onto the lane and a resident has taken it upon themselves to cut back themselves. JN to approach Griffins who own the fields behind to see if they can cut this and if not the PC would approach BW to undertake this work.

**15. Footpaths:**

TG informed the PC that we have applied for funding under the Parish Paths Scheme. TJ confirmed that he would do the same strimming as last year. TG reported that the sign post where the track goes down to Field House was blown over by the storm. The PC are no longer able to claim this under the Parish Paths Scheme, these are now done in house.

**16. Finance:**

The clerk circulated the financial spreadsheet and bank statements and they were duly noted and both agreed with each other.

MJH reported that the balance on the Lloyds Bank Account as of 28th April, 2017 was £7,648.45.

MJH advised that the following were approved for payment at the meeting:-

£25 for Printserve end of year submission payment

£55 for Diane Malley internal audit payment

£88.71 for CALC and NALC payment

£10 for 4 square magazine annual subscription 17-18 payment

£257.60 for Zurich Municipal annual insurance payment

£41.25 for Mr. B. Waldron lengthsman payment

All of these payments were unanimously approved.

**17. CALC and Other Meetings:**

RH, TJ and MJH attended the last meeting but there was nothing of note to report.

TG attended WFDC chairman’s meeting nothing to report.

**18. Minutes from Neighbouring Parish Councils:**

Elmbridge PC minutes previously circulated were duly noted.

**19. Correspondence:**

The clerk circulated the schedule of correspondence and presented the correspondence to the meeting. A number of items had already been discussed and the schedule was noted.

**20. Agenda items for future meetings:**

It was agreed to have the following items on the agenda for the next meeting:-

Velo-Birmingham

EFW visit

Rural defibrilater

**21. To note the date of the next meetings:**

All at 7:30pm at Rushock Village Hall.

Thursday, 21st September, 2017

Thursday, 23rd November, 2017

Thursday, 25th January, 2018

Thursday, 17th May, 2018

Thursday, 20th September, 2018

Thursday, 29th November, 2018

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.22pm.

Signed………………………………….. (Chairman)

Dated……………………………………