

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF  
RUSHWICK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 13 JULY 2022 AT 7.30 PM  
AT RUSHWICK VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Jenkins (Chair) , Cllr Bryan , Cllr Hemsworth, Cllr Williams, Cllr Hughes and Cllr Haywood

In Attendance: Sharon Baxter (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer) and Tim Hughes (Parish Lengthsman)  
Mairead Stibbs – Associate Director Planning Prospects and Rachael Bibby Senior Planning Manager at Lioncourt Homes

1. Election of Chairperson plus (signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office) - Cllr Jenkins was re-appointed as Chairperson signing his Declaration of Acceptance of Office to this effect.
2. Two Councillor vacancies - To appoint by co-option – Two positions available.
3. Apologies: To receive apologies and approve reason for absence  
Cllr Williams (Covid) – Accepted and District Cllr Walton (Personal) – Received
4. Declarations of Interest
  1. Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
  2. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature - None.
  3. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests n items on the agenda and their nature - None
5. To Consider written requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of The Localism Act 2011) written requests to be with the clerk prior to the meeting – None

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Mairead Stibbs and Rachael Bibby were in attendance in respect of planning application M/22/00776/RM to help address any concerns and answer questions. Various objections/queries were raised by members of the Parish Council to include lighting, the location of the LEAP, feature attention ponds, loss of vegetation, road access and visitor parking.

County Councillor Report - Cllr Scott Richardson Brown – No report available  
District Councillor Report - Cllr Daniel Walton – Circulated in advance of this meeting.

6. Minutes: Having been previously circulated, the minutes of The Parish Council meeting of 8.6.2022 were signed as a true and correct record.
7. Progress Reports: No matters arising from previous minutes.  
The action plan was reviewed and updated. The solicitor from Parkinson Wright confirmed there were some issues in respect of the land registration from Kier Living which is likely to incur extra costs.  
Cllr Wise and Cllr Hughes to look at setting up a link on the Parish website for Operation Snap where speeding vehicles can be reported at the time of occurrence.  
Cllr Wise gave a brief update regarding Community Speed Watch. This is to be progressed on the September Parish Council agenda.
8. Parish Lengthsman Scheme: An update was presented as per worksheet.  
Work this month included cleaning and clearing the rubbish from the underpass.  
Cutting back verges along Upper Wick, Claphill Lane and Bransford Road  
Clearing weeds from Grange Lane and cleaning a repositioning the speed sign.

9. Finance

1. Payment of accounts as per schedule were authorised.
2. Monthly Bank Reconciliation Statement – For Information Only
3. Budget Monitoring to 30.06.2022 – For Information Only

10. Reports from representatives: The following update reports were received: -

1. Report from Village Hall Committee: Cllr Bryan

Nothing to report as the next committee meeting is later in July.

- a. To discuss an alternative location for the dog waste bin located near the Whitehall Inn following complaints – Unfortunately, as the remit from MHDC is to locate the bin near the roadside for ease of collection it limits the options of where the bin can be moved. Cllr Bryan to request that the bin be emptied more frequently to see if this alleviates the problem.

2. Footpath Officers report: Cllr Williams

‘I have recently: -

1. Cut back vegetation, and mowed both sides of the path along the Teme, from Bransford layby as far as the last kissing gate.
2. Cut back and mowed the Summer Hollow path.
3. Trimmed the path behind The Whitehall, as far as the underpass.
4. Trimmed the path through Oldbury Woods. The track through the woods was relatively clear, but there were quantities of nettles near all the stiles and kissing gates.
5. Trimmed the path behind Brookfield’s, then along to the level crossing, and across to the path on the other side.
6. Removed dog mess from the corner of Grange Lane where it turns to go over the railway bridge. This had become a persistent problem. I then cut back the ivy, filling three plastic bins, which I took to the tip. Finally, I installed a small sign. This has done the trick ! No more mess.’

3. Report of Play Area: Cllr Hemsworth

‘The park continues to be very busy & popular with visitors from within the Parish & further afield. Litter picking & sweeping of the stones for the drainage pits at the pump track continues to be a regular duty although installing the bins has had a positive impact on the amount of litter within the park.

A special mention to Charlie Breakwell at Black Pear Tree Care who gave up some of his valuable time to help clear back the overgrowth in the back corner of the car park to reclaim the bike racks that were put in 14 years ago.

Oldbury Tigers U13s have now finished for the season. They have confirmed they wish to continue # 2022/23 season & pitch hire agreement has been signed.

Top Cut continue to cut the grass biweekly for £80+VAT per cut on either a Thursday or Friday.

The climbing net on the Tower play unit has been removed & will be replaced by Reid’s at £860 + VAT agreed at April meeting – Yet to be returned.

**Next steps**

Put forward proposal for new benches at the top of the park to replace the ones removed last year – £1,500 - £2,000 (Remaining Section 106 cash £1,658 remaining)

Put forward proposal to scrape back & top dress perimeter path - £3,500-£4,000 (Remaining CILS cash £4,104 remaining)

Investigate new flat & toddler swing seats + chains where they have gone missing since maintenance day in 2020 - £TBC

Proposal for replacement tower play unit at park as required – approx. £65,000 (Existing 106 pots)’

4. Social Media Update: Cllr Hughes

‘Parish Website – Updated as per usual

Facebook - Photos remain popular, especially before-and-after ones of the work done by the Parish Lengthsman. There has been no new communication through Facebook and no other issues to report.’

5. School Representative report: Cllr Hemsworth (interim)  
'The school governors would like to inform the Parish Council that Mr Jeffrey has decided not to return to his role as headteacher of Rushwick Primary School. After seventeen years, he will be missed and we wish him well in the future.

We would also like to share that the Diocese of Worcester Multi Academy Trust has been chosen as the sponsor trust for Rushwick School. We are pleased with this outcome as it was previously in the vision for the school that we would join the DoWMAT'

6. Speeding Issues & Crime Prevention Update: Cllr Wise  
'Received feedback from Robert Haynes (Traffic management advisor West Midlands) with regards to the speed levels in the area. Speed data was taken 24/7 between 4 - 11/5/22.

The data was as follows - The mean or average speed was 28mph and the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds were 32mph. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds are the speeds at which 85% of the vehicles are travelling at or below. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile is what the Police use for Speed enforcement purposes.

As the speeds are under 35mph a Community Speed Watch (CSW) programme could be considered. I sent you a booklet back in April to explain how it works.

If you still wish to take the CSW programme forward with the Parish Council, you will need to contact your local Policing SNT Officers to set this up. If my memory serves me correct the SNT for your area is Kempsey and Alfrick. This means we can look for volunteers for the Community Speed Watch.

I am due to have a conversation with Robert this week to gather further info and support.

The road markings on the round about where Bransford Road and the A4440 meet have been refreshed to help motorists realize they are approaching a roundabout.

Looking for an update from fellow Parish Councillors with regards to the Smart water initiative and whether or not to pursue this further.

Further discussion on the 20 is plenty scheme that seems to be picking up momentum in the 4 neighbouring villages. Hallow being one of them. I believe this is worth pursuing at a number of crossing points at Bransford Road (Worcester Gate site) and the upcoming sites with in Rushwick Village.(Lioncourt).'

- a. To discuss Worcestershire 20 is plenty Campaign – To be discussed at the September Parish Council meeting.
11. Update on the Parish Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Jenkins  
Next Steps: A small working party comprising of Cllr Jenkins. Cllr Hemsworth and Mr. Greenaway to review the suggested amendments and comments from David Clarke to incorporate into the document.
  12. Planning: The following planning applications were discussed: -  
  
Planning Application No: M/22/00776/RM  
Location: Land at 9Os 8205 5395) Claphill Lane, Rushwick  
Proposal: Reserved Matters application for 120 dwellings following outline approval 19/01378/OUT (allowed on Appeal Ref. APP/J1860/W/21/3267054) to include details of appearance, Landscaping, layout and scale.  
Comments: Cllr Jenkins to circulate comments prior to submission to MHDC.  
  
Planning Application No: M/22/00844/HP  
Location: 24 Orchard Close, Rushwick, Worcester, WR2 5TH  
Proposal: Single storey side extension plus alterations to roof design  
Comments: No Objections

13. Correspondence for Information: Circulated by the Clerk
1. West Mercia Police Charter- Policing Priorities for 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30 September 2022  
A request was made to focus on anti-social behavior at the underpass, graffiti/vandalism at Rushwick Park And speeding from Roots Farm shop into the village and down Claphill Lane and along the A4440.
  2. Town and Parish Survey – Please respond by 8.8.2022
  3. The Boundary Commission – The Boundary Commission have had another attempt at drawing the wards for Malvern which features Rushwick being created into a two-member ward which dilutes Rushwick. Councillors were urged to submit their responses to try and prevent this from happening. The Parish Council will also reach out via social media to obtain support from residents.
14. Councillors’ reports and items for future agendas – None

**RESOLVED:** Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting(s)) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press from discussions only in respect of agenda item 15. as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

15. Cllr Bryan presented further update on specialist advice including some calculations for consideration.

Meeting closed at 9.50 PM

Signed ..... Chairman..... Date.....