

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF  
RUSHWICK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 09 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 7.30 PM  
AT RUSHWICK VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Jenkins (Chairman), Cllr Bryan, Cllr Hemsworth, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Williams, Cllr Wise and Cllr Wigglesworth

In Attendance: Sharon Baxter (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer) and District Cllr Walton

1. To appoint councilor vacancy by co-option – One vacancy is currently available. No applications yet received.
2. Apologies: Cllr Haywood (Personal) – Accepted and District Cllr Chambers (Personal) – Received.
3. 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 on items on the agenda and their nature - None
4. 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.

A dispensation request had been received from Cllr Haywood asking if she could be allowed to participate in discussion only (not to vote) relating to the Ashpath - Footpath 520 as a section of this footpath is defined in the Deeds to her property and Land Registry.

This request was declined by the Parish Council, meaning for any future discussion she would have to leave the meeting whilst this topic was discussed. The Chairman agreed to speak to her to explain the situation.

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time, notes of which are appended to these minutes

District Councillor Report had been circulated in advance of this meeting.

5. Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 12.01.2022 having been previously circulated were agreed as a true and correct record.
6. Progress Reports: No matters arising from previous minutes. The Action Plan was reviewed and updated. Cllr Jenkins confirmed he had responded to queries raised by a parishioner on 10.12.2022 concerning dog waste bins and speeding issues.

Road Traffic Monitoring and Highways Issues - Cllr Wise confirmed he was monitoring this and collating information and reporting to the police, where necessary. Three areas of concern were highlighted

  1. From Roots entering the village
  2. Claphill Lane leading into the village
  3. Hazards around the school

Cllr Hughes highlighted concerns with the weight limit of vehicles over 7.5 tonnes driving through the village. This could be improved with the display of clearer road signage.
7. Parish Lengthsman Scheme: An update was presented as per timesheet.

This month the Lengthsman has been working in Upper Wick Lane, Coronation Ave, along the Bransford Road including the Underpass, Broadmore Green and Claphill Lane, clearing around signage, cutting back verges, clearing gulleys and rubbish and attending to the VAS sign.

8. Finance
  1. Payment of accounts as per schedule were authorised.
  2. Bank Reconciliation Statement – For Information Only
  3. Agreed Budget for 2022/2023 and precept – For information Only  
Based on the information provided by MHDC (Band D Housing equivalent of the Council Tax).  
The budget for 2022/2023 was set at £33658.00 resulting in a precept request of £30958.00.
  
9. Reports from representatives: To receive an update
  1. Report from Village Hall Committee: Cllr Bryan - Please see attached.
  
  2. Footpath Officers report: Cllr Williams
 

‘ I have recently inspected

    1. The path from Upper Wick Lane down through Edmonds orchard towards Powick Mill ( Path 530(c) ). The three stiles have not so far been upgraded.
    2. The path across the field west of the junction of the road through the village and the A4103 ( Path541(b) ) . I have cut back brambles and overhanging branches either side of the gate where it meets Path 508(b) which comes down from Aymestrey.’  
Cllr Jenkins agreed to speak to the farmer to ask him to report the stiles that need upgrading to WCC Countryside Access Services.
  
  3. Report of Play Area: Cllr Hemsworth
 

‘ 1. Repair completed by Reid’s to tower play feature ahead of ROSPA inspection in March.  
2. Regular litter picks carried out to manage litter.  
3. Spring bulbs planted last year are starting to come through.  
4. Storage container has arrived and requires assembling – Expected to be completed this week.

Objectives for 2022:

    1. Arrange for 1,100L wheelie bin to be installed by MHDC to manage litter into Spring/Summer months.
    2. Install bins within Park to be voluntarily managed/emptied
    3. Refresh Park perimeter path - scraping back & top dressing with 4mm to dust self-binding gravel.
    4. Look into installing new benches at the top of the park overlooking the Malvern’s.’
  
  4. School Representative report: Position Vacant  
Cllr Jenkins to make contact with the school Headmaster.
  
  5. Social Media Update: Cllr Hughes  
The Parish Website was updated as per usual.  
Facebook Followers has increased to 274 (was 265 in January)  
January has been very quiet with no further issues to report.  
Cllr Hughes requested more pictures/photographs to upload onto Facebook
  
10. Update on the Parish Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Jenkins  
Cllr Hemsworth has attempted to collate all the relevant sections of the NDP together to form a draft of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. It is not complete and there are a few gaps that still need filling in before this can be released as a first draft. He is awaiting feedback from councillors.  
Some of the key areas that need finalising are:-
  1. Key views
  2. Site allocation map
  3. Various maps & appendices
  
11. Planning: *Cllrs are reminded to view MHDC website for full details*  
To consider any Planning Applications received before this meeting – None to discuss.

12. Progress update on public footpath 520 Upper Wick Lane with vehicular access.  
The Chairman co-ordinated a meeting with the concerned residents on Monday 7 February 2022 at 7pm at the Village Hall, where discussions took place concerning repairs to the 'Ash path' in Rushwick. A small committee of residents was formed where documents and information were to be collated in readiness for a proposal to be presented to the residents of Christine Avenue. District Cllr Walton to seek some legal guidance from the MHDC solicitors.
  
13. Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations  
Cllr Wigglesworth confirmed the Cricket Club are coordinating an event on Thursday 2 June 2022 which is intended to involve the whole of the village. She will liaise with the Cicket Club to enquire how the Parish Council can contribute to this event and report back next month.
  
14. Correspondence for Information: Circulated by the Clerk  
It was agreed the Clerk to submit comments in support of the Ward Boundary Consultation. Cllr Hughes to place this item on social media to encourage parishioners to also support this consultation.
  
15. Councillors' reports and items for future agendas  
Cllr Wise confirmed his contact details do not feature on the MHDC website. Clerk to enquire.  
Cllr Wise confirmed he was going to attend some training organized by Worcestershire CALC to become more familiar in his new role.

**RESOLVED:** Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting(s)) Act 1960 to consider excluding the public and press from discussions only in respect of agenda item 16. as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

16. Auto Enrolment

**RESOLVED:** To obtain specialist advice to the value of £700 on this matter.

Meeting closed at 9.10 PM

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