

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
RUSHWICK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 8th JULY 2015 AT 7.30 PM
IN RUSHWICK VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Deakin (Chairman), Cllr Parker, Cllr Williams, Cllr Elcock, Cllr Bennett, Cllr Haywood, and Cllr Rowley.

In Attendance: District Councillor Chambers and 25 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Wigglesworth (Holiday) - Accepted and County Councillor Grove (Holiday) - received.
2. Declaration of Interests
 1. Members were reminded to update their register of interests.
 2. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary: None
 3. Other Disclosable Interests: Cllr Parker declared an ODI in respect of planning application No: 15/00797/FUL being a friend and confirmed he would refrain from voting.
3. To consider written requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011): None requested.

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time; notes are appended to these minutes

4. Minutes: Having been previously circulated the minutes of The Parish Council meeting of 10th June 2015 and The Planning Committee Meeting of Wednesday 24th June 2015 were signed as a true and correct record.
5. Progress Reports: No matters arising from previous minutes. The Action Plan was reviewed and updated.
6. Parish Lengthsman Scheme: An update was received as per worksheet. A request was made for the bund to be cut to the entrance to the village. Clerk to request. Clerk also to request if the gutters in Coronation Avenue and Orchard Close could be cleared.
7. Reports from representatives: To receive an update
 - 7.1 County Councillor: Cllr Grove – No report available.
 - 7.2 District Councillor: Cllr Chambers.
 1. Community Engagement – Council Policy Group setting up during next 4/6 weeks
 2. Parish Conference to take place on Monday 5th October 2015 6-9pm
 3. Senior Management Teams intend to visit Wards to meet with residents during next 12 months.
 4. Do we want to consider a combined authority? Do we wait to see what evolves in other areas
Or should we enter into discussions ourselves? What do we have to offer?
 - 7.3 Report from Village Hall Committee: Cllr Rowley
Minor maintenance is taking place to the oven and water heater. The stage curtains are being rehung, Mr. P Elcock has been appointed as Chairman.
 - 7.4 Footpath Officers report: Mr. Williams
In the process of producing a walking map of the area.
Footpath 508 has been reinstated below the fishing lakes.
It was reported the path alongside the railway needs the nettles removing and a section opposite the junction of Otherton Lane needs the overgrowth cutting back.

7.5 Report from Playscape: Cllr Parker
Playscape to pursue a meeting to discuss and progress the quotes and options from Playdale. The repairs to the play equipment will be extracted from the report and feature on the next agenda for discussion.

7.6 School Representative report: Cllr Wigglesworth
It has been another busy term at Rushwick Primary School and term finishes on Friday 17th July. SATS are due back tomorrow (Tuesday) but they will not be formalised until next term. Numbers are very healthy for next term and there are no major building works projects happening over the holidays. The staffing structure is very stable the only changes being a new Chairman of Governors, Mrs Pauline Key and our new Vicar the Revd Anne Potter has been appointed a Governor. Sports Day on Friday morning was a great success and it was lovely to see so many Parents turning up to support their children. It's the end of term production this week – Cinderella which the children are very enthusiastic and excited about.

8. Finance

8.1 Payment of accounts as per schedule distributed were authorized.

8.2 Budget Comparison 1st Quarter – For Information only

9. **Planning:** The following planning applications were discussed:-

Application No: 15/00797/FUL

Proposal: New single storey residential dwelling on land adjacent to 11 Grange Lane

Location: Land adj 11 Grange lane, Rushwick, WR2 5TG

Comments: Rushwick Parish Council has concerns this breaches the building line in Coronation Avenue.

There is insufficient parking and safety concerns. The property is not in character with the area.

We have concerns over soak away drainage. We therefore recommend refusal.

Application No: 15/00800/OUT

Proposal: Outline application with all matters reserved except for access, for the erection of 1 3 bed roomed dwelling with passing bay.

Location: The Brambles, Upper Wick Lane, Rushwick, WR2 5SN

Comments: Rushwick Parish Council recommends REFUSAL of this planning application

The reasons for this are;

1 ACCESS

Rushwick Parish Council (RPC) is concerned that vehicular access to this development is along Public Footpath (518).

This footpath, which is an unadopted road, known locally as The Ash Path and is little more than an agricultural track, is becoming subjected to increasing vehicular movements which will degrade its surface – both of these factors making it unsafe.

Also

RPC understands that there is an ongoing problem with the construction and layout of the junction at the end of The Ash Path where it joins Upper Wick Lane.

It does not allow for a car to wait within the junction whilst a vehicle accessing it from the Upper Wick Lane turns in and also waits to use the Ash Path. The vehicle on Upper Wick Lane must wait on the main carriageway thus obstructing it until car in junction exits.

This makes access an issue and unsafe.

2 SAFETY

Having made the previous point RPC's main point regarding safety going forward with this development is that of safety of pedestrians using Ash Path in light of;

a) increased vehicular movements

b) degradation of the track surface

c) lack of a designated pavement for pedestrians to use in safety

d) lack of safe passing places for vehicles, except for the one proposed

Many Parishioners use this Public Footpath;

This area of the Ash Path is where Public Foot path 518 serves the residential areas of Christine Ave and Grange Lane.

Children use this route to go to and from school and the playing field at Playscape

People use it to access bus stop at Christine Avenue

Dog walkers

Cyclists

Those just out for a quiet stroll

Nick Link, in written comment to a previous planning application 14/01732/OUT, said;

‘Also I would like to set the record straight about the ownership of the piece of lane in front of the Birches which seems to be being used as a reason for objection to this application. My company Dunstall Developments Ltd own that piece of land which is used by the residents of the Birches to gain access to and from there properties with out my permission. I therefore wonder how they could be against Mr Blizzard doing so with my permission. Yours Faithfully N.Link’

RPC would ask Malvern Hills District Councillors and/or Planning Officers to explain this, as any new land or home owner along the Ash Path would need ‘right of access’ established in law to gain entry to;

- a) the development site
- b) the new house built on this site
- c) in addition any subsequent owner of the property

RPC considers that this development makes the area less safe for its Parishioners.

RPC objects this planning application and recommends REFUSAL.

- 10. Update on progress with applications for Expenditure of Section 106 monies – Item deferred to August to allow discussions with Playscape on Playdale equipment.
- 11. Update on newsletter – Colour and cost
Ideas are being gathered at this stage. To liaise with Newsletter Editor for update and to progress further.
- 12. Correspondence for Information: Clerk confirmed Grant Thornton External Audit 2014/15 had been passed successfully.
The Chairman confirmed he had received a letter from Mrs Parsons regarding her planning objection to 15/00797/FUL. Clerk to respond.
- 13. Councillors’ reports and items for future agendas
Request from Cllr Williams to place and agenda item for a discussion on the Solar Farm on land on Otherton Lane.
Cllr Elcock requested an item to Discuss Speeding through the Village.
Cllr Deakin confirmed further Village Consultations had been received. These are to be analyzed at a future date.

Meeting closed at 10.00pm

Sharon Baxter (Clerk)

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

Standing Orders were adjourned for Public Question Time

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Representation was made from various residents regarding planning application 15/00504/OUT Outline application for 41 dwellings to land off Bransford Road (west of Village Hall), Rushwick Residents expressed their disappointed at the Parish council representation at the Northern Area Committee Meeting where approval was granted.

Susan Weaver

Requested support from the Parish Council to refuse the planning application for 11 Grange Lane 15/00797/FUL on the following grounds:-

1. Increase in traffic
2. Only one parking bay
3. New access would be in Coronation Avenue and not Grange Lane
4. Worried as children play from a road safety aspect
5. Building is out of character
6. Issues with privacy
7. Insufficient soakaways
8. Risk of flooding
9. Dimension/size not clear on the plans

Karl Lancaster

Confirmed he was the immediate neighbour to 11 Grange Lane expressing his concerns about extending his own property, concerns with privacy, sewerage and water pressure. He also highlighted there were plans to pull down the hedge.

John Lampitt

Also expressed concerns in respect of planning application 15/00797/FUL from a privacy aspect.

Standing Orders were reimposed