

DRAFT
Minutes of the Meeting of Rushock Parish Council

Held on Thursday, 16th May, 2019 at Rushock Village Hall at 8:15pm

Present:

Cllr. T. Green (TG) (Chairman)
Cllr. D Cutler (DC) (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. S Davis (SD)
Cllr. R. Hampshire (RH)
Cllr. T. Jennings (TJ)
Cllr. J. Nicholls (JN)

Also Present were:

The clerk Mrs B J Drew (BD) District Cllr M Hart (MH) Mr. Malcolm Linney and Cyril Savage (local residents) and the Lengthsman, Mr. Bill Waldron (BW).

1. Apologies for Absence:

District Councillors Mrs Lisa Jones (LJ) and Ian Hardiman (IH) and Rebecca Ruston, West Mercia Police.

2. Co-option

Defer to September meeting.

3. Public Question Time:

None

4. Minutes:

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th January, 2019 were duly approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

5. Progress Reports:

TG reported that the Mercia EnviRecover planning application was granted planning permission for expansion by WCC however Rushock PC did make representation. TG also reported that the first cables are being installed in Clattercut Lane in preparation for broadband fibre.

6. County Councillor's Report:

Rushock Issues

Further to the resurfacing of New Farm Lane as promised I did ask for action on the size of the gap between the highway and the verge and this was inspected and some work done on the worse parts to tackle this.

As reported in my January report, whilst technically in Stone Parish and indeed parts of Wychavon District, WCC highways have gone out to statutory public consultation and this closed on 3rd January, 2019 in order to reduce the speed limit at Podmore on the A442 from 50 mph to 40mph. I am pleased to report that WCC highways have confirmed that the TRO will be implemented as advertised and this should happen by the end of May.

Regarding the Rushock Wood speed limit and the request to reduce to 30 mph between the gateways, and the promise to have the speed strips installed in order to look at the speed data, this has now been done. I have discussed the data with Paul Green and it does not support a reduction in the speed limit. I will bring the data along to the meeting to discuss this further with you.

I am very pleased to confirm that I have been advised by WCC highways that Park Lane will have significant patching work done and will then be surfaced dressed for its whole length. This work should be done this year.

I obviously deal with routine highways issues as and when I receive them.

If you have any issues that you need me to address then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Wyre Forest Issues

The public realm work for Kidderminster Town Centre is progressing and should be completed by the autumn.

Work on Kidderminster Train Station continues and should be completed by the end of this year.

Strategic Issues County Wide

Work continues to set up the wholly owned company for Children's Social Care. It will be October 2019 when the company is completely set up and for economies of scale and to most importantly to improve outcomes for children Education and Special Needs and Disabilities (SEND) will go in to the company as well.

MH reported that regarding the Rushock Wood speed limit he would keep this under review and the PC could consider the possibility of installing a flashing sign saying slow down or reduce speed.

Regarding the patching on Park Lane MH advised that the work will be assessed prior to commencement, TG advised that the correct areas need to be patched. It is planned from 18th June for 16 days.

7. District Councillor's Report:

Wyre Forest Issues

Kidderminster Train Station

Work on the £4,000,000 transformation and redevelopment of Kidderminster train station continues.

Worcester Street

Work to enhance the public realm and improve the infrastructure on Worcester Street has now commenced. This is a £2 million capital investment between the GBSLEP and County and District Council working collaboratively to lead the way in attempting to get the land holdings in that area to act differently and redevelop the redundant empty shop units. We would like to see more accommodation and in particular affordable housing in this area as it is a sustainable location. We have made an application to the Chancellor's £675 million to support further regeneration in this area as this is exactly what we need to get this scheme off the ground from a Council perspective as these regeneration issues especially transforming brown field sites always come down to matters of viability.

Crown House

We are just awaiting the tenant Tellereal Trillium to commence with the demolition. They have recently appointed a demolition contractor and so work should start on site imminently.

Capital Portfolio Fund

We have recently announced that we have purchased Forest House, from WFCH which is for business units. We are also investing in 9 business units on the Silverwoods Estate which are about to commence being constructed and we have purchased the former Brinton building and the Riverside parade of shops in Kidderminster town centre which demonstrates our clear investment commitment to the Wyre Forest.

Green Street Depot

Work is progressing well on this £3 million capital scheme which will see a brand new fit for purpose customer service centre and major investment in the depot site. This project will make a circa £20k revenue saving overall to the Council.

Elections

All out elections took place on Thursday, 2nd May for all 33 seats on WFDC. We are pleased to say that we were all duly elected, Lisa retaining Stephen's seat for the Conservatives.

The makeup of WFDC is now as follows:-

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|--------------------------------------|----|
| Conservatives | 14 |
| Independent Community Health Concern | 8 |
| Independents | 5 |
| Liberal Democrats | 3 |
| Labour | 2 |
| Green | 1 |

Annual Council will meet on 22nd May to set up the new council for the next 4 years and appoint the leader of the council and committee chairman and vice chairman. There will be a 'progressive alliance' running the Council, made up of all parties and the independents but without the Conservatives.

Rushock Issues

We have been dealing with the usual routine casework, reporting litter on the main A roads and along the country lanes and also fly tipping and dealing with planning issues.

8. Police Report:

No representative present.

9. Rushock Village Hall:

SD reported on a recent meeting of the Village Hall Committee.

TG advised that an amended draft of Deed of Amendment of Trusts, Appointment of Corporate Holding Trustee and Resignation of Individual Trustees has been received which needs approval by the Parish Council prior to signing.

MH reported that the draft deed was sent to the Village Hall committee some time ago and very late in the day they have now come back with some amendments. MH has spoken with Jenny Smith, Solicitor at Thursfields who is dealing with the matter and she has advised they are relatively minor rather than substantive changes, the main differences being in Annex B relating to the duties and powers of the management committee, they also want to add in a clause 14 Duty of care and extent of liability. MH will liaise with Jenny Smith on these amendments and seek her advice and any concerns. MH advised the Parish Council cannot execute this deed at this meeting until clarification has been sought but need to give the Chairman delegated authority to finalise the wording on behalf of the Parish Council following the advice from the Solicitor.

MH clarified that the original deed was not executed properly therefore this new deed is required for the 4 trustees to sign to legally transfer the property to the Parish Council then Annex B allows the Management Committee to manage the property.

DC queried what would happen if the village hall failed, has this been covered in the new deed and who would be able to sell the property. MH after checking the amended deed reported that the current clause 4.3 states the Management Committee have the power to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of all or part of the property, the Parish Council as it currently stands do not have the power to sell.

DC strongly voiced that the Parish Council cannot agree to this and all agreed, it was therefore decided MH take this back to discuss with Jenny Smith that the Parish Council would want final say on disposal once legal Custodian Trustees.

TG expressed concern over whether any additional costs would be incurred and if so these will have to be paid for by the Village Hall, the Parish Council cannot afford any more legal fees.

It was unanimously agreed to give the Chairman delegated authority to deal with this matter on behalf of the Parish Council if needed.

10. Planning:

TG reported on planning since the last meeting;

WF/19/0123/CERTP: Proposed single storey side extension and proposed two storey rear extension at Clattercut House, Rushock - Permitted

WF/18/0373/Full: Conversion of agricultural building to a dwelling house, including external alterations and parking provision at Beech Elm Farm, Clattercut Lane, Rushock – Appeal Dismissed.

WF/18/0778/Full: Proposed new industrial unit at Plot 7 Droitwich Road, Rushock Trading Estate – Permitted

19/0267/CERTP: Proposed single storey side extension and proposed two storey rear extension at Clattercut House, Rushock – Permitted.

11. Highways:

JN reported on work undertaken by the Lengthsman.

BD advised that we are still awaiting the £1400 payment from WCC for work on new farm lane.

12. Footpaths:

TG informed the Parish Council that the PPP grant application had been submitted for 2019-2020 and £180.00 been approved.

DC reported on 2 stiles that have disappeared from the bottom of her garden across griffins field. TG will look at this.

13. Finance:

The financial spreadsheet was duly circulated and it was in accordance with the bank statements. The current bank balance was £3401.25.

The following were approved for payment:-

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| Already Paid; | |
| Green Waste Recycling Services | £1400.00 |
| Rushock PCC | £300.00 |
| Thursfields | £1800.00 |
| Print Serve Limited | £25.00 |
| Four Square Magazine | £10.00 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| For Approval; | |
| Worcestershire CALC | £103.93 |
| Zurich Municipal Insurance | £257.60 |
| ICO Fee (Mrs B J Drew) | £40.00 |
| Dianne Malley (Internal Audit Fee) | £55.00 |
| Mrs B J Drew (Clerks Expenses) | £80.95 |

14. Councillor Training:

TG stressed the importance of training. The Parish Council will cover the cost of a course, if interested let the Clerk know. SD will attend the 5P's training on Friday 14th June.

15. CALC and Other Meetings:

TG reported date of next meeting Monday 24th June, Clerk will forward agenda when received.

TG attended the Chairmans meeting on 13th Feb, TG and BD attended CALC meeting 21st March – amongst other things they discussed precepts and provision of CCTV.

16. Minutes from Neighbouring Parish Councils:

Elmbridge agenda and minutes have been received.

17. 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 duly noted.

18. Agenda items for future meetings:

Co – option.

19: To note the dates of the next meetings and set dates for 2020 meetings:

All at 7:30pm at Rushock Village Hall.

Thursday, 19th September, 2019

Thursday, 21st November, 2019

2020 Meeting Dates agreed;

23rd January, 2020

21st May , 2020

10th September, 2020

26th November, 2020

Clerk to book Village Hall.

Clerk to try and rearrange date of September meeting due to apologies from SD and RH. Clerk will advise.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed..... (Chairman)

Dated.....