

RUSHWICK'S ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15th MAY 2019 AT 8.00PM IN RUSHWICK VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Mr. A Deakin (Chairman)

IN ATTENDANCE: 14 parishioners were present at this meeting.

1. Welcome: Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all parishioners.
2. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Ian Parker and Mrs Tilling
3. Guest Speaker Mrs Sue Dowty JP – Hearing about the Magistracy
Gave a very interesting and informative talk on the Magistracy informing parishioners of her voluntary role and what this entailed. Including: -
 - A minimum 13 days a year work is required to maintain competencies – very flexible
 - 95% of sentenced cases are dealt with by Magistrates
 - Not legally trained – Sit with a solicitor
 - Guidelines to adhere to
 - Maximum powers that can be granted are 6 months
 - Have to retire at 70 years oldMembers of the public had the opportunity to ask questions throughout her talk.
4. The minutes of Wednesday 9 May 2018 were approved.
5. Matters arising from Approved Minutes: None
6. Chairman's Report: Cllr Deakin presented his report.
7. Footpath Officers Report: Cllr Williams: -

'Issues concerning our Parish's footpaths occur quite regularly. Some I deal with personally, some require help from another councillor, and some I refer to my "bosses" at The Countryside Centre at Nunnery Wood.

Here are some of the issues from the past twelve months. They have all been resolved or are in the process of being attended to.

1. Marker post to be resited at the entrance to Oldbury Wood
 2. New way markers at field gate near "Parkfield."
 3. Stile mended in field near Claphill Lane
 4. Path alongside Summer Hollow cleared of undergrowth
 5. Fallen tree at footbridge over the brook in the field to the east of Broadmore Green disposed of
 6. Sapling removed from steps up from footbridge near Brookfield's Farm
 7. Bough of tree (at head height) to be removed from path between the back of The Whitehall and the pedestrian tunnel under Grove Way
 8. Fallen tree (reported to the Countryside Service) on the Teme River bank, north of the Bransford Bridge lay-by
 9. Stile improved at the bottom of the orchard between Upper Wick Lane and Powick Mill
 10. General clearance of light undergrowth on all paths where necessary.
8. School Representative Report: Cllr Wigglesworth presented her report :-
'A year of consolidation!
The school is continuing its focus on school improvement priorities and is well placed to build on this next year.
We are moving to 'one form entry' this September, one year earlier than planned which enables us to no longer have mixed age classes. This is an important landmark for the school and a major reason for us originally taking on the class expansion project.
We are expecting up to 25 new pupils to join our Reception Class. There are spaces in most year groups, so contrary to some information shared in the Parish the school is not quite up to capacity.
We have two new teachers joining us in September one of who is an NQT.
It is year 6 SATS this week so the school is currently geared around making this go as smoothly and stress free as possible!
A huge thanks, as always, to Mr Jeffrey our Head Teacher, Mrs Hulls our Deputy Head and all the staff as well as all the ancillary staff for all the hard work and dedication they give to Rushwick Primary School.

9. Report from Playscape: Cllr Parker has taken on the responsibility of opening/closing the newly installed security gates. He continues to carryout regular litter picks on the playing field. Oldbury Park Tigers football team continues to use the field for training and football matches. Seeking to make improvements to enhance the area/ground albeit he process of engaging suppliers and obtaining costings are slow.
- Questions
 Q1. Can the two benches be replaced?
 A1. Yes, these have been included in part of the development plan.
 Q2. If the security gates need to be kept open later who is the person to contact?
 A2. Either the Chairman Andrew Deakin or the Vice Chairman Ian Parker.
 Thanks were expressed for chopping and clearing the overgrown trees around Playscape.

10. Update on Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Jenkins confirmed The Parish Council were tasked with producing a Neighbourhood Plan. The area has been designated. Four Working Party Groups are progressing well with this project. It is anticipated a Village Questionnaire will be distributed to each household in May.

Rushwick Village Hall Development Committee: Cllr Khan

Project Update

A group of interested people from across the village joined together to take forward a project on the redevelopment of the Village Hall

Villagers and those who use the village hall were asked to complete an initial survey on line or on paper giving their thoughts on how the space could best be used.

A Community event was held in the Hall in September to highlight the groups that use the hall and to gather further feedback. All the feedback was analysed to give an initial impression of what people wanted to see from the hall.

Two firms of architects have made presentations to a group of committee members on how the Hall might be redeveloped. Either by building a new hall or by adapting the current one. A third option was also considered.

The group met last week to have an initial discussion on the three options but further clarifications on costings is currently being sought. Hopefully this information will be available for a wider discussion at the Village Hall AGM next Wednesday evening.

To make sure that we really understand people's needs, a further short survey will be issuing shortly so we can narrow down people's preferences further.

As have been previously explained this is a long-term project; so if people do want to get involved there is still time to do so.

11. County Councillor Report: Cllr Grove had submitted a report.
 Clerk will circulate report to parishioners upon request.
12. District Councillors report: Cllrs Chambers and Godwin presented a report.
 Clerk will circulate report to parishioners upon request.
13. Statement of Annual Accounts 2018/19: Distributed for information.
 Clerk highlighted donations made this year included The Poppy Appeal and Age UK Malvern & District. Also, a grant had been received for MHDC in respect of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money

The Chairman thanked parishioners for attending. He then closed the meeting at 9.08pm

REFRESHMENTS

Sharon Baxter - Clerk
 16 May 2019
 Tel: 07815468928

Signed Date