

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
RUSHWICK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 7.30 PM
AT RUSHWICK VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Jenkins (Chairman), Cllr Bryan, Cllr Hemsworth, , Cllr Williams & Cllr Haywood

In Attendance: Sharon Baxter (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer)
District Councillor Daniel Walton

1. Apologies: Cllr Wigglesworth (Personal) and Cllr Khan (Personal) - Accepted
District Cllr Chambers (Personal) - Received
2. 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
3. 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

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| <p>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - No Questions District Councillor Report was received and circulated</p> |
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4. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 14.07.2021 were agreed as a true and correct record.
5. Progress Reports: Matters arising from previous minutes and review of Action Plan.
Clerk to write a letter of complaint to Lloyds Bank to obtain bank funds from defunct Playscape transferred back to the Parish Council.
Cllr Williams to check if three stiles had yet been upgraded by WCC Countryside Access between Claphill Lane and Broadmore Green.
6. Parish Lengthsman Scheme: An update was presented as per worksheet. Tim was commended for the excellent work carried out The Clerk had circulated photographs of his efforts.
7. Finance
 1. Payment of accounts were authorised as per schedule
 2. Bank Reconciliation Statement – For Information Only
8. **RESOLVED:** To authorise the Clerk to sign and date the amended/updated lease agreement between Worcestershire County Council and Rushwick Parish Council to consent to proposed works to upgrade the existing bicycle track to a Pump Track located at Upper Wick Lane and to pay £150.00 to WCC for legal and property costs.
9. **RESOLVED:** To accept quotation from Forte Trailscapes at a cost of £24,999.00 ex VAT for the scope of work detailed for the design & construction of an all-weather surface pump track at the top of the village park. (subject to evidence of public liability insurance and credit check).

The Clerk highlighted that there was an obligation to use Contracts Finder should the quotation exceed the value of £25K. The Council was confident the work would fall within budget. In the event, it should exceed the £25K limit they agreed they would still like to proceed with this company on the basis of the project was a very specialized niche market and the limited timeframe of when the work could be carried out.

RESOLVED: To authorise a cheque for £12,500 to Forte Trailscapes for upfront payment for half of the cost of the work to be carried out.

Cllr Hemsworth has agreed to oversee this work and will present the cheque at the commencement of work on site.

10. Reports from representatives: The following updates were received: -

1. Report from Village Hall Committee: Cllr Bryan

‘ I have just a couple of points to report from the Village Hall Committee meeting held by videoconference in July as follows:

1. The village hall committee discussed plans to move the barrier that is currently segregating the original car park from the new car park. The plan is to move the barrier from its current location to the car park entrance to control access to the whole car park.
2. The provision of storage within the village hall was discussed. Additional storage is required to facilitate the requirements of regular users of the hall. It was agreed that any additional storage should be considered in conjunction with future planning of the Village Hall development committee.’

2. Footpath Officers report: Cllr Williams

‘ Over the Summer I have cleared vegetation from the following :-

1. The path beside The Whitehall.
2. The path from Grange Lane beside Brookfield’s, over the brook and along Edmonds field to the Level Crossing.
3. From the Level crossing back towards Tanhouse Lane and Christine Avenue.
4. The path beside Summer Hollow, which was completely impassable (again) until I had a go with my hedge trimmer. Tim the Lengthsman has done further work here also.
5. The path from the Cricket Ground, over the footbridge, and up to the Parish Boundary inside the Golf Course.
6. Beside the A4103 from the Rushwick turn down towards the Layby.
7. The Path alongside The Teme, from the layby as far as Beck's field below the Level Crossing. Big job, getting on for 4 hours; finished by pushing my garden mower the whole length !’

3. Report from Playscape: Cllr Hemsworth

OPT have now marked out the football pitch.

It is anticipated a proposal will be placed on the next agenda regarding a storage container.

4. School Representative report: Cllr Wigglesworth

‘The children started back to school this morning Monday 6th September.

Things are beginning to get back to normal. There are a few staffing changes as well as new caterers. So, another busy start to the new school year. Also, the school is no longer operating in bubbles’

5. Village Hall Development Committee: Cllr Khan

‘Keith, the Chair of the Development Committee had hoped to attend this evening's meeting to discuss moving the work of the Committee forward. Unfortunately, he is now unable to do so. He now hopes to attend October's meeting. In the meantime, he will be meeting with Kay Poole as Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee for her views.’

Concerns were expressed regarding the safety aspects of moving the car park barrier to the entrance of the car park. This could result in congestion and a back log of traffic on the Bransford Road in the event that the barrier was not open. The Parish Council would prefer to have the car park open and accessible for all.

6. Social Media Update: Cllr Hughes

Updated with documents related to Parish Council meetings

The summer has been quiet for the Facebook page with no posts in August.

There have been no negative incidents to report.

11. Update on the Parish Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Jenkins
Seeking volunteers to assist with a household drop as part of the consultation process.

12. Planning: The following Planning Applications were considered: -

Application No: 21/01440/S106

Location: Land at (Os 8202 5595 West of Worcester), Martley Road, Lower Broadheath

Proposal: Application under section 106A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to modify
The requirements relating to the legal agreement dated 16th December 2019 associated with planning
permission 15/01419/OUT

Comments: No Objections

Application No: 20/02000/RM

Location: Land at (Os 8202 5595 West of Worcester), Martley Road, Lower Broadheath

Proposal: Application for approval of reserved matters relating to layout, scale, external appearance
And landscaping (pursuant to outline planning permission reference 16/01168/OUT) for 310 dwellings
along with associated drainage, highway and green infrastructure, including construction of spine road
(Phase 2).

Comments: No Objections

Application No: 21/01155/FUL

Location: Land at (Os 8122 5475), Crown East

Proposal: Proposed construction of single live-work unit

Comments: Final comments to be devised by the Chairman and circulated for agreement by councillors.

Bloor Homes Development at Land at Grove Farm

RESOLVED: After some discussion and deliberation the Council agreed NOT to adopt, manage and maintain
the public open space associated to the new residential development at Land at Grove Farm, Worcester.

13. Correspondence for Information: Circulated by the Clerk

14. Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

The Lengthsman to report a dead tree to WCC located at the bottom of Claphill Lane that appears to have
died and could potentially become a safety hazard if it falls down.

It was agreed to write to WCC requesting some signage on the Bypass to signify a right of way across the road,
from a health and safety perspective.

Speeding issues were discussed again in the village. The Parish Council thought it might a good idea to try to
replicate the scarecrows used in Leigh Sinton used to help to try to combat speeding, by involving the school
children to help build and design them along with some banners to try to raise speed awareness. Clerk to ask
Cllr Wigglesworth to liaise with the school.

Meeting closed at 8.44 PM

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

District Council Report : Daniel Walton

'Because August is definitely a quieter month it is a shorter report this month.

Just to start a few links on Covid for updates.

To view the latest infection rate visit the [Coronavirus dashboard](#)

[Walk-in vaccination clinics were in operation throughout August.](#)

[View the Worcestershire Vaccine dashboard for the latest information.](#)

[Read more information about the Covid-19 Vaccination Programme in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.](#)

There are 2 schemes relating to Afghan resettlement to the UK:

1. The Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP) for Locally Employed Staff (LES) in Afghanistan. This scheme is designed to support those Afghan nationals who have worked with our forces eg interpreters. This scheme was launched in April 2021.
2. The Afghan Citizen Resettlement Scheme (ACRS). This was the scheme that was announced last week and which is designed to welcome 5,000 vulnerable Afghans into the UK in the first year of the scheme and 20,000 over the longer term. Further guidance on this scheme is still awaited.

Locally, the current Afghan resettlement scheme is being co-ordinated by Worcestershire County Council and this will be the same for ACRS. The County Council will work closely with the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership who are delivering this programme for the West Midlands on behalf of the Government. The County Council will consider wider support arrangements for Afghan arrivals, co-ordinate financial support from Government and donations from communities. We are also working with groups Citizens Advice and [Malvern Welcomes](#).

As non-housing stock councils we are working with our housing association partners and private landlords to identify accommodation. Commitment has been sought from both Platform and Rooftop to begin to identify suitable family sized accommodation within our districts that could be appropriate, and both have responded positively to these requests. In addition, we will be working with voluntary groups in due course to help them with their work supporting new arrivals and getting access to funding.

We have now said goodbye to Phil and Stephen (two of our joint Directors with Wychavon) and interviews were last week for replacements.

Over July and August there were many events in Malvern including the Gin festival and the Food Festival both of which were very successful. Footfall, in general, to our town centres have increased and we're seeing a lot of tourism activity including our walks app being downloaded more than ever.

In line with this we've been launching a lot of Economic Development project to support our High Streets including a grant for High Street businesses to support new shop fronts and for businesses to launch or revamp their websites. We've also launched our own new 'Visit the Malvern's' website – a revamped version with lots more information for visitors.

Locally, myself and David have been meeting with the developers at Crown East – Both Redrow and Bloor and we're expecting the first phase to go to planning committee in October where a Northern Area Planning committee is in the diary.

The SWDP review has been delayed whilst we wait for important studies related to infrastructure. Finally, we are still waiting on the outcome of the appeal on the land behind the Whitehall.

There are a number of appeals we are waiting on which we should have had back some time ago so, thankfully, it's not unique to this one.

The planning result –'