

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
RUSHWICK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 8 JUNE 2022 AT 7.30 PM
AT RUSHWICK VILLAGE HALL**

Due to quoracy issues the meeting commenced at 7.50 PM

Present: Cllr Bryan , Cllr Hemsworth and Cllr Williams

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

1. Election of Chairperson plus (signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office) - Cllr Bryan was appointed as temporary Chairperson to Chair this meeting only. His Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed to this effect.
2. Election of Vice-Chair Cllr Bryan was re-elected as Vice Chair and his Declaration of Acceptance of Office duly signed.
3. Apologies: To receive apologies and approve reason for absence
Cllr Jenkins (Personal), Cllr Haywood (Personal) – Accepted
4. 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 n items on the agenda and their nature - None
5. 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

No questions for Public Question Time.

District Councillor Walton provided valuable feedback from a recent surgery he had held at Rushwick Village Hall where 40+ parishioners had attended. Comments included overgrown vegetation needing attention to aid visibility at various locations, reintroducing the display of agendas on the Parish noticeboards, introducing school signage from Grange Lane to Christine Avenue and circulating an Annual Newsletter. All these comments will be considered and addressed.

6. Minutes: Having been previously circulated, the minutes of The Parish Council meeting of 11.05.2022 were signed as a true and correct record.
7. Progress Reports: No matters arising from previous minutes.
The action plan was reviewed and updated.
Quotes are to be obtained to repair the noticeboard located by the Milestone.
8. Parish Lengthsman Scheme: An update was presented as per worksheet. This included cleaning and clearing rubbish from the underpass, cutting back verges along the Bransford Road and Claphill Lane and clearing gully grates in Upper Wick Lane. Charging, moving, and checking the VAS sign.
9. Finance
 1. Payment of accounts as per schedule were authorised.
 2. Bank Reconciliation Statement to 31.03.22 – Agreed and approved.
 3. Monthly Budget Monitoring to 31.03.2022 – For Information Only
 4. VAT Recovery £8084.14 – For Information Only
 5. Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22 – For Information

6. **Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2021/22 Part 3**

a. **RESOLVED:** Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 was approved and signed.

b. **RESOLVED:** Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2021/22 was approved and signed.

7. **RESOLVED:** To engage an Internal Auditor for 2022/23 with Terms of Reference with a revised cost annual of £200.

10. **RESOLVED:** The Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020 was adopted as a whole.

11. Reports from representatives: The following update reports were received: -

1. Report from Village Hall Committee: Cllr Bryan

‘As confirmed by The Clerk following April’s meeting, RPC do not hold the original deed document for the Village Hall. I have received confirmation from Kay Poole (Chair of the Village Hall Committee) that the document is not held elsewhere.

I attended the Village Hall committee meeting held on 25.05.2022. The main point of discussion was with regards to the proposed extension works to the Village Hall which Kay Poole is now leading. The next step is to review the current plans and to review any work already undertaken to consult with the village at large and village hall in respect of understanding the desired outcomes from the proposed building work/investment.

As agreed at April’s meeting, I will make arrangements for the fourth new litter bin to be installed in Grange Lane. For installation of the bin, we will require the installation of a post which I will order from Glasdon and discuss installation with Tim Hughes.’

2. Footpath Officers report: Cllr Williams

‘This month I have:

1. trimmed either side of the footbridge below Brookfield’s
2. begun the trim of nettles from Bransford Layby along the Teme. However, the grass is too thick for my hedge trimmer, so I have liaised with Lengthsman to assist.
3. dealt with a tree branch in the alleyway at the end of the Ash Path, which had been deposited there. I have removed all the minor branches and laid the six-foot-long branch up against the fence
4. spoken to the house owner of the grey brick house at the start of the Ash Path about the foliage which was obstructing the footpath. This is being removed as I write.
5. cut back vegetation in the Summer Hollow path.’

3. Report of Play Area: Cllr Hemsworth

- ‘The park is in good condition with litter picking & sweeping of the stones for the drainage pits at the pump track is a regular duty.
- The new litter bins have been installed at two locations. The third is currently in the container as they are slight larger than I anticipated although during half term the bins filled very quickly.
- Oldbury Tigers U13s played home matches on the following dates 08/01/22, 29/01/22, 05/03/22, 19/03/22 and 02/04/22. They are keen to continue for 2022/23 season – Contract has been revised & I am awaiting a signed copy to be returned.
- Top Cut are now mowing the park & football pitch twice per month which suits us better than the ad hoc arrangement we previously had. I will request that Tim Hughes uses some of his time to strim round the play equipment & at the Pump Track as required.
- ROSPA inspection complete. Two issues to address, one being the climbing net which was anticipated and is in hand. The other is to do with the roundabout where the ground clearance is greater than 60-110mm (approx. 130mm), as such the ground level needs to be raised.
- The climbing net on the Tower play unit has been removed & will be replaced by Reid’s at £860 + VAT as agreed at April meeting – Yet to be returned.

MHDC have requested that they would like the pump track listed as an attraction on Visit The Malverns website. This is under consideration.

- Graffiti continues to be a challenge, most of it is innocuous but some very inappropriate. I have removed it all to date.
- I would like to seek assistance in getting a regular Police or PCSO presence as there are a group of around 10-15 teenagers some locally and from surrounding areas who are becoming a nuisance around the park and village.

4. Social Media Update: Cllr Hughes – No report available

5. School Representative report: No report available

6. Speeding Issues & Crime Prevention Update: Cllr Wise
 a. To discuss Worcestershire 20 is plenty Campaign - **ITEM DEFERRED**

12. Update on the Parish Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Jenkins
 Next Steps : Comments from David Clarke are to be reviewed.

13. Planning: The following planning application was only received this afternoon. Clerk to request a time extension for consideration at the July Parish Council meeting.

Planning Application No: M/22/00776/RM
 Location: Land at 9Os 8205 5395) Claphill Lane, Rushwick
 Proposal: Reserved Matters application for 120 dwellings following outline approval 19/01378/OUT (allowed on Appeal Ref. APP/J1860/W/21/3267054) to include details of appearance, Landscaping, layout and scale.

14. Correspondence for Information: Circulated by the Clerk
 a. Parishioner Complaint dog waste bin located by Whitehall Inn – Solutions are to be looked at to remedy this problem. These include asking MHDC to empty this bin more frequently and possibly replacing the existing bin with a larger one with a lid.

15. To discuss replacement/upgrade damaged litter bin located in the Bransford Layby – Enquiries to be made regarding replacement and the potential costs involved. Cllr Walton to make some enquiries.

16. Councillors’ reports and items for future agendas– None
 Ginny Wigglesworth is to be presented with a token gift from the Parish Council to say thank you for her efforts and dedication to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting(s)) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press from discussions only in respect of agenda item 17. as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

17. Cllr Bryan presented further update on specialist advice and actions required.

Meeting closed at 9.20 PM

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