



Rous Lench Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 15th July 2024

at 7pm at Rous Lench Village Hall.

Present	Cllrs D Browne (Chair), L Newton, G Hughes, S Davis, S Harrison & K Hicken In attendance: Kerry Williamson (Clerk) Public: 1 Meeting opened at 7pm
49/24	Chairman's Welcome: Cllr Browne opened the meeting and welcomed the Councillors and public.
50/24	Apologies for Absence: Cllr Ben Hurdman (District) sent apologies.
51/24	Declarations of Interest: None
52/24	Dispensations: No requests received.
53/24	<p>To receive reports from District, County Council, Police and Public Question Time (PQT):</p> <p>Wychavon Dist. Council (WDC): Cllr Ben Hurdman provided the following report to share at the meeting:</p> <p><i>Rous Lench & Radford Community Gardens, following a few concerns raised by the rural panel there was a site visit conducted by the rural fund team. The applicant addressed the concerns well and the team found no further issues. This strengthened the panels confidence in the projects ability to deliver.</i></p> <p><i>The panel were made aware of some of the concerns raised by five households within the village however the panel felt that the project was a worthy one and the funding from the rural panel has been approved.</i></p> <p><i>Unfortunately, the community legacy grant for St Peter's was not awarded. I did send in my support.</i></p> <p><i>I hope to see you next month and if there's anything in the meantime please get in touch.</i></p> <p>Worcs County Council (WCC): No report provided.</p> <p>Police: Police reported that a property in Rous Lench had disturbed a potential intruder trying to access a gate to the side of the property in June, approx. 12.30am. Police will speak to local neighbours.</p> <p>PQT: One member of the public was present to raise concerns regarding planning application W/23/00321/FUL, particularly the unlawful hardstanding, the changes to the application, the time taken to make a decision on the application and the proximity to other Parish residents. Cllr Browne assured the resident that the Parish Council is monitoring the application and is in communication with Cllr Ben Hurdman. The Parish Council is concerned that if this application is approved then there could be further applications – setting a precedent.</p>
54/24	To approve minutes of previous meeting. The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on May 20th 2024, were agreed as a true record and approved.



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55/24	<p>Planning Applications and Appeals: The following applications were noted and/or discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) SWDP Review consultation – response provided by RLPC. Any updates to be provided. Cllr Davis mentioned the news article that Rachel Reeves plans to accelerate the stalled Worcester Parkway development of 10,000 houses. b) W/23/00321/FUL, The Caravan At, Radford Road, Rous Lench, Evesham, WR11 4UL – amended to part change of use of land (retrospective) from agricultural land to provide extension to existing gypsy site approved under reference W/15/01159 together with the siting of 3 no. mobile homes, 3 no. day rooms and 3 no. touring caravans to provide three gypsy pitches for members of the same family. <p>Action: Parish Council to write to Cllr Ben Hurdman.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) W/23/02236/FUL, Land On, Little Ashdene Farm, Kington Lane, Kington - Change of use of land to residential for the erection of 3 dwellings. Comment provided by RLPC, currently pending decision. Noted. d) W/24/01223/CAN, Rous Lench Village Green, The Green, Rous Lench – Undertake tree works as detailed on the application form and any accompanying information. Submitted by Rous Lench Parish Council. Currently pending decision. Noted.
56/24	<p>Public Rights of Way and Highways - Clerk reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) PROW maintenance and obstruction issues – Bridleway impassable, situated between Rous Lench and Church Lench. Determined this was in Warwickshire County Council. b) Lengthsman Scheme – Solar panel on new VAS in Radford needs to be turned and tree cut in front of old VAS in Radford at the white gates. <p>Action: Clerk to ask Lengthsman to do these tasks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Flooding – Nothing to report.
57/24	<p>Progress Reports - Clerk reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update on Actions since Previous Meeting – routine work, audit and publication work completed. Dealing with issues with new VAS unit – not lighting properly and Bluetooth connectivity. Annual Leave in August.
58/24	<p>Community Orchard/garden & allotments – Cllr Newton reported that the Big Lunch recently held at the Community Gardens went well.</p>
59/24	<p>Rous Lench & Radford parish matters for discussion or decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Asset maintenance checks (standing item) All assets checked. Defibrillator in Rous Lench may need some maintenance. Tenants are leaving The Wheelbarrow Castle at the end of August. Action: Cllr Browne to forward Rous Lench defibrillator registration information to the Clerk. Action: Cllr Browne to find out if defibrillator in Rous Lench needs any new components. Action: Clerk to check that defibrillator in Radford will still receive electricity if The Wheelbarrow Castle is unoccupied. b) Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) – new VAS sign is now lighting properly. Issues with Bluetooth connectivity – VAS unit has been removed so that Clerk and MessageMakers can remotely access the unit to run tests.

	<p>c) Community Legacy Grant (CLG) (round 5) – St Peter’s Church CLG application was unsuccessful.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to let Cllr Ben Hurdman know that a reason for refusal was that District Councillors were unaware of the project – this is an error.</p> <p>d) Atlas Tower Group – Cllr Browne updated the Council on the meeting with Atlas. There are two potential sites. Parish Council is interested to find out more to improve mobile phone coverage.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to ask Atlas the process – should planning permission be sought before public consultation or vice versa.</p> <p>e) Neighbourhood Plan – survey was completed.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to complete survey online before 31st July.</p> <p>f) Police Priorities Charter – Councillors felt information requested was too detailed.</p> <p>g) Office of the Police Crime Commissioner (OPCC) survey – survey was completed.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to complete survey online before 5th August.</p>
60/24	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) Budget expenditure: To consider and approve. The budget expenditure was approved.</p> <p>b) Bank reconciliation: To consider and approve. The bank reconciliation was approved.</p> <p>c) Invoices: To approve the proposed payments. The proposed payments (see table at the end of Minutes) were agreed.</p> <p>d) Clerk’s Delegation: To note the payments made between meetings. The payments made between meetings (see table at the end of Minutes) were noted.</p>
61/24	<p>Correspondence: All correspondence has been circulated to Councillors.</p> <p>Worcestershire CALC: AGM of the Wychavon Area of CALC.</p> <p>Worcestershire CALC: CALC Update 24-03.</p> <p>Worcestershire CALC: CALC Update 24-04.</p> <p>Wychavon District Council: New Chairman for Wychavon District Council.</p> <p>Wychavon District Council: Parish Council Neighbourhood Planning.</p> <p>Wychavon District Council: SWDP Review – Village Facilities and Rural Transport Survey.</p> <p>Worcestershire County Council: Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) for Worcestershire Consultation Exercise.</p> <p>West Mercia Police: Community Charter Priorities.</p> <p>West Mercia Police: Town and Parish Council Survey 2024.</p> <p>Local Government Boundary Commission: Final Recommendation for Worcestershire County Council Published.</p> <p>Zurich: Insurance Policy Renewal.</p> <p>Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO): Renewal Confirmation.</p>

	St Peter's Church PCC: CLG funding. Rous Lench Residents: Rous Lench Community Gardens.
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62/24	Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agenda Cllr Davies: Residents in Mill Lane had complained about road access being blocked by builders. Parish Council cannot do anything, suggested to speak directly to developer or Cllr Ben Hurdman. Cllr Newton: Remaining CLG funds can be transferred to Community Garden account.
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63/24	Date of next meeting: Cllr Browne is unavailable on 16th September; it was agreed to move the meeting to Monday 30th September.
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Meeting closed at 8.40pm

SIGNED:..... Chair

Date:

Rous Lench Payments and Expenses 15th July 2024 meeting					
Payments for authorisation.					
Chq. No.	Payee	Details	Net	VAT	TOTAL
online	Mrs Kerry Williamson	Salary & Expenses	£661.45	£0.00	£661.45
online	Parish Lengthsman	May (£240) & June (£240)	£480.00	£0.00	£480.00
online	Rous Lench Village Hall	Meeting booking July 2024	£24.00	£0.00	£24.00
online	Worcestershire CALC	Councillor Training	£35.00	£7.00	£42.00
online	Environmental & Landscape Maintenance Services (ELMS)*	Allotment/Community gardens work (CLG funded)	£1,280.00	£0.00	£1,280.00
online	MJW Tree Surgeons*	Tree work in the village Green	£850.00	£0.00	£850.00
TOTAL			£3,330.45	£7.00	£3,337.45
* - payment made between meetings					

Kerry Williamson
Clerk and RFO