

Minutes of the Meeting of Rushock Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd May 2011 in Rushock Village Hall at 8.30 pm

There were no questions for the Parish Council from the public

Present: Cllrs L. McCurrich, J. Nicholls, T. Green, S. Hamilton, J. Jennings, D. Smith and G. Wilson. Also in attendance were LPO J. Willetts, Mr. G. Weaver (Part time), Mr. W. Waldron and the Clerk

To Receive Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence: Apologies were received from Cllr. S. Clee, Cllr S. Williams and CSO K. Easthope

Declaration of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes: Minutes of the Council Meeting and Planning Meeting 1.2.11 were signed as a true record.

Progress Reports not Covered Elsewhere: Cllr McCurrich was anxious to learn if there were any problems with the change of the polling station from Rushock to Chaddesley Corbett. Cllr Nicholls reported that several people in Clattercut Lane had not received polling cards and he had contacted District Cllr Williams. Cllr McCurrich reported that the only telephone number to report gypsies and travellers occupying sites was still only the police contact number and the District Council had appointed consultants to look into the need to provide sites for travellers. Cllr McCurrich thanked the Village Hall Committee for arranging the Street Party which had been very much enjoyed.

Police: LPO Willetts reported on the theft of signage and grid covers and Cllr Nicholls was encouraged to hear the police had taken the initiative to target those who receive the stolen goods.

Village Hall. Proposal for the Parish Council to become the Custodian Trustee. Mr. Weaver advised the Council that at the Village Hall AGM it was agreed that the Rushock Parish Institute should change its name to Rushock Village Hall and the existing 1931 Conveyance be replaced with a Deed of Trust. Having taken advice from the Charity Commission and Community First, Mr. Weaver had prepared a draft of the proposed Transfer of Freehold and Deed of Trust. It had also been recommended by them that the Custodian Trustees should be the Parish Council instead of individually named persons. The majority of village halls use Parish Councils as Custodian Trustees as it eliminated the problem of having to appoint new individual trustees as the need arose. In response to queries previously raised by Cllr McCurrich, Mr. Weaver explained that the Management Committee would be responsible for the annual returns to the Charity Commission, the AGM would also be chaired and organised by the Management Committee and if the Hall Committee failed to maintain the building properly or produce satisfactory accounts, the Trustees were permitted to take over the responsibility and appoint a new Management Committee. Should the Village Hall no longer be required the Trustees would be responsible for selling it and the beneficiaries would be the people of the Community. Cllr McCurrich had discussed the issue with the Chairman and Chief Executive of CALC and others with experience and had been advised that it is not unusual for Parish Councils to take on this role and if the Village Hall committee did become defunct he felt that the Parish Council would feel a responsibility to the Community to get involved anyway. It was **Proposed** Cllr McCurrich and **Seconded** Cllr Nicholls with a majority vote that the Parish Council would take on the role of the Custodian Trustee provided that the existing Trustees agreed to this. It was agreed that after gaining the consent of the present Trustees it would be in order for Mr. Weaver to send the draft Deed to the Charity Commission. Cllr McCurrich thanked Mr. Weaver for all the work he had done on behalf of the Village Hall.

Planning Application No. 10/0748 Gabbs Farm Approved. WCC/Wychavon Energy from Waste Plant application is now with Central Government. The Planning Development Officer had been contacted concerning the installation of solar panels and had received a very comprehensive response, the main points being that if the building was not listed and if the panels could not be seen from the road and did not have an obvious deritorious effect on the general ambience, planning permission was not required.

Highways Cllr Nicholls reported on the lengthsman activity.

Winter Gritting: Cllr Nicholls to speak to Richard Wheeler about storing and spreading grit. The Council to write to WCC to try to get the gritter to do a detour up the hill and back again. As a last resource a grit bin could be installed on the hill for the lengthsmen or car drivers themselves to spread grit.

Clattercut Lane speed signs. Data had been received from speed monitoring in Clattercut Lane for one week which showed a considerable number of vehicles exceeding 50 mph. WCC are unwilling to put up speed activated signs unless there is a speed limit and at the moment are concentrating on A and B roads.

Mr. Waldron to ask about speed activated slow down signs on his training course.

3881708 Potholes in Clattercut Lane. Two of the deepest ones had been filled but it was still not satisfactory. Cllr Nicholls to contact the Hub and obtain official progress report.

3881784 Sharp bend arrows by Little Gains had been replaced

Accident statistics on A442. Accident data had been received but there was a cost of £75 to find out the causes of the accidents. Cllr Clee to be contacted again.

Signage for HGVs at lane entrances to village dealt with at Annual Meeting.

Consultation on withdrawal of bus services distributed. Cllr Green to complete questionnaire.

Footpaths Cllr McCurrich thanked Cllr Green for his work on the footpaths and information about land ownership was to be given to him at the end of the meeting.

Finance Current Position: Building Society £1417.65, Bank £3545.74 and 121 Lloyds Bank shares @ 59.25p. The Parish Council had been required to register as an employer with the Inland Revenue and as PAYE now had to be operated on a monthly or quarterly basis it was **Proposed** Cllr McCurrich and **Seconded:** Cllr Nicholls that cheques could be signed for the Clerk and Inland Revenue in July.

Cheques: Cheques were signed for Zurich Insurance £225.00, Rushock Village Hall £135.00, CALC £55.47 and the Clerk £269.74.

CALC and General Council Meetings. Cllr McCurrich had attended the WCC Parish Conference on 12.4.11. There had been a presentation by David Morecroft on bringing the London 2012 Olympics to the communities. The Worcestershire Agreement was being produced to replace the Parish Charter and it was proposed that Cllr McCurrich and the Clerk would complete the questionnaire. Cllr. McCurrich, Cllr Green and the Clerk had attended the Joint Parish Forum/CALC Area Meeting 13.4.11. Next Area Meeting 21.6.11

Minutes from Neighbouring Parish Councils Minutes had been received from Hampton 1.12.11 & 2.3.11, Elmbridge 19.1.11 and Stone 8.3.11.

Emergency Plan Cllr Smith reported on the Emergency Planning Forum 9.2.11. Cllr McCurrich to contact Hovi and obtain a contact name and number to be inserted into the Emergency Plan.

Some discussion took place at the end of the meeting concerning the final approval of the Rushock Parish Council Information brochure. It was decided that this should be printed green on cream paper with website addresses in black.

Communications Listed separately. One person had been invited to the Flag Flying Ceremony at Bewdley Museum on 20.6.11. A letter from Mark Garnier MP was to appear in the Magazine. Leaflet about home composting passed to Cllr Hamilton for possible inclusion in the Magazine.

Items for Future Agenda There were none

Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 7th September at 7.30 pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.20 pm

Pauline Trimble
Clerk