

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Rushock Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th May 2010 in Rushock Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs. L. McCurrich, J. Nicholls, T. Green, S. Hamilton, J. Jennings, G. Wilson and District Cllr Pauline Hayward. Also in attendance were LPO Jayne Willetts, CSO Kate Easthope, Mr. W. Waldron and the Clerk.

To Receive Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence: Apologies were received from District Cllr S. Williams. Subsequently D. Smith sent apologies. The delay in sending these was due to e-mail difficulties.

Declaration of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes of the last Meeting 13th May 2009: Were approved and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

Cllr McCurrich welcomed Cllr Hayward and congratulated her on being re-elected as District Councillor.

Chairman's Report: Cllr McCurrich reported that the Council had held 5 full Council Meetings and 1 Planning Meeting. Over 100 items of correspondence had been reviewed. There were 6 elected and one co-opted Councillor. Election 6th May 2010 Prior to the election, Cllrs Talbot and Palmer had stood down. It was **Proposed:** Cllr McCurrich and **Seconded:** Cllr Nicholls that the Clerk write and thank them for their many years service. There had been an uncontested election and a warm welcome was given to the two new Parish Councillors, Terry Green and David Smith. Planning There had been no objection to the planning application for the increase in LPG held by Hingley and Callow on Rushock Trading Estate. The Council are closely monitoring the proposed waste incinerator at Hartlebury Trading Estate and were in contact with the developers, Mercia Waste Management, and Hartlebury Parish Council. The WFDC Core Strategy document was being circulated and disappointment that there was little emphasis on the importance of farming and food production had been reported to Cllr Williams. WFDC would in future be charging for permitted development and pre-application advice.

Community: The police had maintained good contact through CSO Kate Easthope and Cllr McCurrich welcomed our new LPO Jayne Willetts. The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme was working with regular updates being supplied by email. There were some minor issues of theft and fly tipping. Members of the Council had attended various CALC, District and County Council meetings. There did seem to be a number of grants available for new initiatives if required. Cllr McCurrich thanked the Village Hall and Church Committees for their work. There had been a successful Rushock Extravaganza at New Farm and an interesting sequel to the Radio Four programme on Rushock last year was that Prof. Peter Edwards returned in March to give a talk on the history of Rushock from the Middle Ages.

Highways: The Parish had benefited greatly from the work of Cllr Nicholls and our Lengthsman, Bill Waldron, and Mr. Waldron was congratulated on being one of the three winners of the top honour in the National Association of Local Council Awards 2010. A contractor had also been employed to carry out high pressure jet root removal on drains in Cakebole Lane and Well Lane.

Communications: The Clerk was congratulated on making Rushock one of the first Parish Councils in Worcestershire to achieve the web site rosette award. The Parish Magazine still remained the most widely read source of information.

Administration, Training and Precept: Two councillors had attended a training course by WFDC and we were to produce a short document for residents covering local government structure together with a summary of emergency procedures. An increase had been made in the precept to cover the reduction in the financial support from the District Council. No councillors had made any claims for personal expenses.

Cllr McCurrich expressed his thanks on behalf of the whole Council to the Clerk for her help and support.

Report on Parish Council Elections. Cllr McCurrich again thanked Cllrs Talbot and Palmer for their service and welcomed the new Councillors. The Declarations of Office were signed. Cllr Hayward welcomed any councillors to contact her if they had any problems.

Community Policing: CSO Kate Easthope and LPO Jayne Willetts reported that there had been break-ins on the Rushock Trading Estate and field gates had been stolen. The Council were advised to take registration numbers and report any scrap lorries acting suspiciously.

Lengthsman: Cllr McCurrich thanked Bill Waldron for all his work.

Residents Communications: Covered in Chairman's Report. Cllr Hamilton was thanked for taking over the magazine.

Any Other Business: Cllr McCurrich reported on the change in recycling from 5th July and it was noted by Cllr Nicholls that waste would still only be collected every two weeks.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Pauline Trimble