

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Rushock Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd May 2011 in Rushock Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs. L. McCurrich, J. Nicholls, T. Green, S. Hamilton, J. Jennings and G. Wilson. Also in attendance were LPO J. Willets, Mrs. M. Trow, Mrs. I. Green, Mr. G. Weaver, 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 of the last Meeting 12th May 2010: Were approved and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report: Cllr McCurrich reported that the Council had had a generally good and productive year with a full complement of 7 elected Councillors. 4 Parish Council Meetings and 5 Planning Meetings had been held and representative had attended various Forums and Conferences at both District and County level.

Planning Of the 6 Planning Applications the most controversial was the Energy from Waste plant at Hartlebury which the Council had objected to on the basis of it being a large industrial development in a rural green belt area. Members had attended various meetings and exhibitions at Hartlebury and a public meeting took place at Rushock to enable the developers to explain their case.

Community The Council had maintained good contact with the police through CSO Kate Easthope and LPO Jayne Willets. E-mails provided through Neighbourhood Watch had kept us well informed. Fly tipping had been an occasional problem but excellent service had been received from WFDC in removing it. The Council was most grateful that Cllr Terry Green had taken on the role of Footpath Warden and was delighted with his diligent approach.

A Parish Council visit had taken place to the Severn Waste Envirosort automated recycling plant at Norton which had proved very interesting.

The Council had accepted proposals from WFDC to move our polling station from Rushock to Chaddesley Corbett to reduce the cost per vote from £7.20 to less than £1. Residents had been informed by an insert in the magazine and on the web site and also had the chance to comment direct to WFDC.

Highways and Transport Our Lentsman, Bill Waldron had again done an excellent job maintaining the lanes. WCC had carried out speed monitoring by the group of houses in Clattercut Lane where many vehicles were found to exceed 50mph. Discussions are taking place with WCC to try to resolve this.

Winter gritting and snow clearing had been improved by WCC contracting Richard Wheeler to carry out snow ploughing although we are trying to arrange for the bank up from the triangle to be gritted.

There is still a problem with foreign HGVs on SatNav entering the lanes and causing damage and annoyance and discussions are taking place with WCC over language free signage.

Communications Residents are kept informed through the magazine, notice board and web site and an information bulletin is to be distributed to every resident which will also include the emergency plan.

Finance The Council were keeping a tight control of costs but the grant from WFDC had been reduced. Our insurers had been changed to considerably reduce the premium and no Councillors had claimed any expenses.

Community Policing: LPO Jayne Willets reported that overall Rushock was a peaceful area. The Crime Prevention Roadshow had been the best attended of all the villages. Metal thefts were on the increase and a three day operation targeting scrap metal merchants had been held when 60 vehicles had been stopped and this was to be repeated. There were to be cut backs in the Police Senior Management at West Mercia and local policing is to be streamlined. A case of flytipping in Clattercut Lane had resulted in someone being interviewed and fined.

Lengthsman: Cllr Nicholls reported that the Lengthsman Scheme was working well due to the diligence of Mr Waldron and the Council had secured funds from WCC for this coming year. Both the drainage and visibility splays had been very well maintained.

Residents Communications: Covered in the Chairman's Report. The web site was steadily becoming more used.

Any Other Business: There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Pauline Trimble
Clerk