

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Rushock Parish Council held on Wednesday 15th May 2013 in Rushock Village Hall at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs. L. McCurrich, J. Nicholls, D. Cutler, T. Green, S. Hamilton, G. Wilson, PC A. Wallace, Mr. W. Waldron and the Clerk

To Receive Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence: Apologies were received from Cllrs. S. Clee and S. Williams and Mr. J. Cutress

Declaration of Interest: There were no declarations of interest

Minutes of the last Meeting 15th May 2012: Were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising

Chairman's Report: Cllr McCurrich reported that the Council had held 4 Parish Council Meetings and 4 Planning Meetings and had been well represented at CALC, WFDC, WCC and Emergency Planning Forums. Dee Cutler and Sam Palmer had been welcomed on to the Council and Cllr McCurrich was grateful for the support provided by the whole team and particularly Cllr Nicholls for his work with the Lengthsman and Highways and Cllr Green for the footpaths. He had attended the opening of the new WFDC Civic Centre at Finepoint Way, Kidderminster
Planning The controversial application for two wind turbines at Lowbridge Farm had subsequently been withdrawn and representations had been made concerning light pollution from various developments including Chaddesley Corbett School.

Community Good contact had been maintained with the police and crime had been low in the Parish although there had been a recent burglary in Clattercut Lane. Cllr McCurrich had attended a meeting at Hindlip to see the work of the police Control Centre and had been impressed by their efforts to be even more effective with limited resources. The Queen's Jubilee celebrations had gone well; a road closure order for the street party had been obtained together with a small grant from WFDC. As Trustees of Rushock Village Hall the Council are grateful for a new committee coming forward and thank the previous committee for all they have done.

A team led by Cllr D. Cutler had come 3rd in the WFDC Inter Parish Quiz despite being one person short. All good for the Rushock image.

Highways WCC had installed a No HGV sign at the top of Clattercut Lane and a direction sign away from Lunnon Lane at the Elmbridge Lane crossroads. A flashing speed sign had been installed in Clattercut Lane and the winter gritting route had been changed to include Rushock Bank and Park Lane together with the installation of a salt bin in Lunnon Lane. WCC had done a major improvement to the parking and footpath adjacent to the houses 1-10 Clattercut Lane. The Lengthsman, Bill Waldron had continued to do excellent work maintaining and improving drainage and together with Cllr Nicholls had organised some major jetting and root cutting work. Grants provided by WFDC Flood Alleviation had covered some of the cost. Bill had also maintained visibility splays well at junctions. Footpaths and signing had been improved by our Footpath Warden, Cllr T. Green, and a grant had been obtained from WCC.

Communications with Residents A continuous supply of articles had been inserted in the Parish magazine and the web site had been well maintained.

Finance Changes resulting from the Government Localism policies and future reductions in the grants from WFDC were being grappled with and no expenses had been claimed by any Councillors. Cllr McCurrich concluded by thanking all the team and particularly the Clerk and said we needed to keep going to maintain the spirit and identity of Rushock.

Community Policing PC Andy Wallace reported that there had been one burglary in Clattercut Lane which from a police beat area had come under Worcester but borderless policing was being looked at so that which ever unit was closest to the incident would attend. Priority for speed enforcement was focused on locations where someone had been killed or seriously injured so the provision of a camera van in Clattercut Lane was very unlikely. Chaddesley Point to Point had not had No Waiting cones this year but this had not caused any problems. Cllr Nicholls to contact them. West Mercia had managed to meet the 20% cut in its budget by forming an alliance with Warwickshire Police but had to save the same amount next year. In order to save money, buildings were being closed and police officers re-deployed which undoubtedly would mean areas being covered getting bigger but the response time to a telephone call to the police would be 20 minutes at the very most. Rushock was one of the best places consistently for low crime rate.

Lengthsman Cllr Nicholls reported that it had been a very busy and successful year and we were grateful to the Lengthsman, Mr. Waldron.

Residents Communications Cllr McCurrich thanked Cllr Hamilton for producing the Parish Magazine which was of real value to the community and the web site had had 433 hits in the last three months.

Any Other Business: There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.40pm
Pauline Trimble - Clerk