

Minutes of the Meeting of Rushock Parish Council held on Tuesday 27th August 2013 in Rushock Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs. L. McCurrich, J. Nicholls, T. Green, S. Hamilton and G. Wilson, District Cllr S. Williams, LPO A. Wallace, Mr. M. Trimble and the Clerk

To Receive Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence: Apologies were received from Cllrs D. Cutler and S. Palmer

Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes: Minutes of the Annual Meeting, Parish Council Meeting and Planning Meeting 15.5.13 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Progress Reports not Covered Elsewhere: Mr. C. Savage was thanked for attending the Flag Flying Ceremony.

Reports from County or District Councillor if Present: Cllr Williams reported that the District Council were going through a serious strategic review as over the next 4 years the Council expect Government support to reduce by at least another 32%. They would try to keep the 136 Grant. The result of a referendum in Kidderminster had been that the people did not want a Town Council. The result of a referendum to ascertain whether people preferred an election every four years for the District Council as opposed to being elected in thirds every three years was that it should remain as it is. There was to be boundary review of the District Council as the number of Councillors was to be reduced from 42 to 33 which meant there would be 11 three member wards. With regard to WFDC expenditure reduction Cllr McCurrich pointed out that the only resources used by Rushock was refuse collection but the churchyard grant was being reduced to nothing in two years time which was a significant issue for the precept in a small Parish. Cllr Williams was asked to fight strongly for retention of this grant at the original level of £740.

Police: LPO A. Wallace reported that there had been one vehicle crime in July and in August a BMW had been taken from Rushock Trading Estate out of the front gate which was being investigated by the C.I.D. A concrete mixer had been taken through the fence. Most of the 20% spending cuts had been achieved by an alliance with Warwickshire Police and the closure of police stations but another 5% cut had to be achieved by 2015 which could affect frontline policing although response times to 999 calls would remain the same.

Planning: There had been further correspondence from Hartlebury PC re the cost of the incinerator and Cllr Hamilton was to attend a film show at Pershore on 5th September. Cllr McCurrich reported that we had not received any information from WCC concerning the cost and Cllr Williams was to ask Cllr Clee for a factual clarification from WCC on cost and alternatives.

Highways: Cllr Nicholls reported that the Lengthsman had re-instated grips in lanes and had been in touch with The Hub about drains needing to be cleared at Gabbs Farm and on the 442 by Rushock Trading Estate. HGV sign had been erected in Lunnon Lane and bollards on the verges in Park Lane. Work on verges in New Lane and Park Lane was still outstanding but David Hunter was quite happy for them to be filled with skalpings. Yvonne Scriven had contacted David Hunter requesting white lines in Clattercut Lane, particularly by Gabbs Farm, and had received the same response as the Council that the lane was too narrow. The Clerk to email David Hunter and ask if white arrows diverting traffic to the left could be an alternative.

Footpaths: Cllr Green reported that crops over footpaths was causing the usual problem but more and more people were using the footpaths. A new sign was to be erected above Bannut Tree Farm and some strimming had been undertaken. Problems at the Old Post Office had been sorted out.

Finance: Current Position: Co-op Bank £4346.62. 121 Lloyds TSB shares @ 72.71p. A VAT reclaim of £319.32 had been made.

Cheques: Cheques had already been issued W. Waldron £106.25, Inland Revenue £68.20, the Clerk £291.64, Glasdon £104.24 and L.H. McCurrich for new bench installation materials £45.40 which were all approved.

CALC and Other Meetings: Cllr Green reported on the 9th Parish Conference 4.6.13 and CALC Area Meeting 20.6.13. Cllr Cutler would be asked if interested in attending CALC Networking Event 24.9.13. Cllr Green to attend next CALC Area meeting 30.9.13. CALC AGM 10.10.13. Attendance to be decided.

Minutes from Neighbouring Parish Councils: Cllr McCurrich reported on minutes from Elmbridge 8.5.13 and Hampton 8.5.13.

Emergency Planning Forum: It was hoped that Mr. J. Cutress would represent Rushock at the next Forum 23.10.13 (now postponed)

Localism Bill: Cllr Cutler had agreed to become involved with Localism issues.

Communications with Residents: Cllr McCurrich had covered most issues in the magazine.

Training: Cllr McCurrich encouraged Councillors to go on training courses.

Correspondence: Listed separately. Alan Kingston was retiring from WCC Countryside Service.

Points for Information and Items for Future Agenda: There were none.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 19th November 2013 at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

Pauline Trimble - Clerk