

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
RUSHWICK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 8 MAY 2024 AT 7.00 PM
AT RUSHWICK VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Jenkins, Cllr Williams, Cllr Griffin-Blugher and Cllr Haywood

In Attendance: Sharon Baxter (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer)
District Councillors Whatley plus one parishioner

1. Cllr Jenkins was re-elected as Chairperson. His Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.
2. Two councillor vacancies are available for co-option.
3. Election of Vice - Chairman plus (signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office) - **Item deferred** to next meeting in the absence of Cllr Hemsworth.
4. Apologies: Cllr Hemsworth (Personal), Cllr Lowe (Personal) and Cllr Wise (Personal) - Accepted.
5. Declarations of Interest
 1. Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
 2. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature - None
 3. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests n items on the agenda and their nature - None
6. To Consider written requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of The Localism Act 2011) written requests to be with the clerk prior to the meeting - None

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Notes from Public Question Time are appended to these minutes.

County Councillor Report - No report available.
District Councillor Report - To report at Annual Parish meeting.

7. To elect / appoint the following Officers/representatives: -
 1. Village Hall Committee: Cllr Griffin-Blugher was appointed
 - a. Proposal to consider the repair/replacement and re -location of the defibrillator machine currently located on the front wall of the Village Hall.
ITEM DEFERRED - Cllr Griffin-Blugher confirmed the options were to repair the existing defibrillator costing in the region of £500 or to purchase a new one. Councillors favoured the option of a new defibrillator unit. Cllr Griffin-Blugher to obtain some quotations and report back at the next meeting.
 2. Footpath Officers: Cllr Williams was re-appointed. He did express he may need some help with this appointment due to the physical demands of the role. The Chairman to speak to him directly with a possible solution.
 3. Report of Play Area: Cllr Hemsworth was re-appointed
Confirmation received today from MHDC that the S106 funding application for £150K has been successfully awarded to upgrade the play area.
 4. School Representative report: Position Vacant
 5. Speeding Issues & Crime Prevention Update: Cllr Wise was re-appointed

8. To appoint members to the following: -
 - a) Staffing Committee - Responsibility of the Chairman and Vice- Chair.
 - b) Planning Committee – All councillors to serve on the planning committee.
 - (i) Delegated powers were granted to the Planning Committee to allow them to make and submit planning comments.

9. Minutes: Having been previously circulated, the minutes of The Parish Council meeting of 10.04.2024 were signed as a true and correct record.

10. Progress Reports: Matters arising from previous minutes - None
The Action Plan was reviewed and updated.

11. Parish Lengthsman Scheme: In advance of this meeting the Clerk had circulated the Lengthman’s timesheet. The Clerk to submit to WCC on their new digital system for grant reimbursement.

12. Finance
 1. **RESOLVED:** To renew annual insurance from 01.06.2024-31.05.2025 (1 year fix) at a cost of £1,414.08 with Arthur J Gallagher Insurance.
 2. Payment of accounts as per schedule were authorised.
 3. **RESOLVED:** To continue with existing bank signatories and to update letter to HSBC allowing the Clerk to receive full information and transfer funds between all HSBC Accounts held under the name of Rushwick Parish Council.

13. Proposal to consider reviewing NALC Standing Orders and Financial Regulations- **ITEM DEFERRED**
New NALC Financial Regulations need to be reviewed.

14. Reports from representatives: To receive an update
 1. Report from Village Hall Committee: Cllr Jenkins to update at the Annual Parish meeting
 2. Footpath Officers report: Cllr Williams - Nothing to report this month.
 3. Report of Play Area: Cllr Hemsworth: Cllr Jenkins to update at the Annual Parish meeting
 5. School Representative report: No report available

15. Highways Issues Update - Cllr Jenkins - Awaiting a response from WCC.

16. Update on the Parish Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Lowe - This has now been submitted to MHDC.

17. **RESOLVED:** To accept dates of Parish Council meetings for 2024/2025
Please note Parish Council meetings take place on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at Rushwick Village Hall except for August and December

18. **RESOLVED:** To renew football pitch hire agreement for Oldbury Park Tigers 2024/2025 – Cllr Hemsworth to progress

19. Planning: No applications to consider.

20. Correspondence for Information: Circulated by the Clerk
Letter dated 24.04.2024 from Quality Solicitors Parkinson Wright confirming that HM Land Registry have now completed the registration of the land gifted to the village hall by Kier Construction Ltd – Fee £65 plus VAT has been written off to the Parish Council’s benefit. Clerk to provide a copy to Cllr Griffin-Blugher.

21. Councillors’ reports and items for future agendas – None

The meeting closed at 7.27 PM.

Signed Chairman..... Date.....

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A parishioner reported the contractors working for Lioncourt Homes have piled up soil behind The Oaks, Bransford Road such that anyone using RW-516 is now able to look over the 6ft fence directly into the resident's garden and through the patio windows into the lounge. This is causing significant distress to the resident who is a single female living alone.

We respectfully request that Lioncourt Homes removes the piles of soil to restore the resident's relative privacy.

Cllr Jenkins to raise the matter directly with Lioncourt Homes to try to resolve.