

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
RUSHWICK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 9 OCTOBER 2024 AT 7.30 PM
AT RUSHWICK VILLAGE HALL**

(Please note the meeting commenced at 7.55pm owing to quoracy reasons)

Present: Cllr Jenkins (Chair), Cllr Hemsworth (arrived 7.55pm) and Cllr Lowe.

In Attendance: Sharon Baxter (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer)

1. Apologies: Cllr Haywood (Personal), Cllr Griffin-Blugher (Personal) and Cllr Williams (Personal) - Accepted
District Cllr Whatley and District Cllr Rouse (Northern Area Planning Committee) - Received.
2. To appoint councillor vacancy by co-option - Three councillor vacancies are currently available.
3. Declarations of Interest
 1. Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interest.
 2. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature - None.
 3. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature - None
4. 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

District Councillors Reports - The report was noted.
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5. Minutes: Having been previously circulated the minutes of The Parish Council meeting of 11.09.2024. were signed as a true and correct record.
6. Progress Reports: Matters arising from previous minutes - None
The Action Plan was reviewed and updated.
 - A meeting has been arranged with the headmaster on 19 October 2024.
 - Tim Hughes has confirmed he will take on some extra paid footpath work to assist Cllr Williams.
 - The Clerk to enquire with the Village Hall if a one tonne bag of salt could be delivered to the car park which the Lengthsman will use to replenish the grit bins around the parish in preparation for winter.
7. Parish Lengthsman Scheme: In September Tim charged and changed the location of the mobile speed sign. Cleaned and cleared the underpass, sided our footpaths and verges along Bransford Road and cleared all gully grates along Bransford Road, Claphill Lane and Upper Wick.
8. Finance
 1. Payment of accounts as per schedule were authorised.
 2. Monthly Bank Reconciliation Statement - For Information.
 3. Conclusion of Audit year ended 31 March 2024 - PKF Littlejohn LLP have concluded the external audit for 2023/2024 confirming all is in order with no matters of concern. The Clerk was thanked for her efforts.
 4. Budget Monitoring QTR 2 TO 30.09.2024 – Reviewed.

9. Reports from representatives: To receive an update
 1. Report from Village Hall Committee: Cllr Jenkins/Cllr Griffin-Blugher - No report available.
 - a. Update on transfer of ownership status and insurance matters
 2. Footpath Officers report: Cllr Williams
 1. The Brookfields footbridge still requires attention.
 2. Oldbury Woods entry - no change, still very boggy.
 3. Summer Hollow path needs cutting back.
 4. Path across the field from the A4103 towards Aymestrey now quite accessible.
 3. Report on Play Area: Cllr Hemsworth
 ESP Play Parks are completing their snagging list with an expected completion date of 14 October 2024. This is to be followed with an inspection which will allow the park to reopen. Then, an official grand opening will be organised.
 4. School Representative report: Position Vacant - Nothing to report
 5. Speeding Issues & Crime Prevention Update – Nothing to report
- 10 Update on the Parish Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Lowe
 Starting Regulation 14 - A meeting has been arranged with Mr. Andrew Ford to go through each point for Compliance purposes.
11. WCC Highway Issues - Progress Update: Cllr Jenkins
 No further response from WCC Highways to report
12. Planning: The following Planning Application was considered: -

 Planning Application: M/24/01252/OUT
 Proposal: Residential development of up to 120 homes ...
 Location: Land at (Os 8205 5395) Claphill Lane Rushwick
 Comments: Rushwick Parish Council strongly objects to this application to allow work, delivery and clearance to commence at 7.30am rather than 8am due to the unsociable hours, noise, dust and disturbance which is impacting on the lives to an adjacent number of residential properties.
13. Correspondence for Information: Circulated by the Clerk throughout the month
 Share Your Views on Planning for Healthier and Inclusive Ageing Environments – WCC the Consultation will run from 1 October until 3 November 2024.
14. Councillors' reports and items for future agendas - None

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

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

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT – PETER WHATLEY & SARAH ROUSSE

An update on SWDPr progress has now been issued (Sept 27th) on behalf of all three South Worcs councils.

The core points are:

- the remaining delay in getting to a finalised report remains input on transport modelling from Worcs CC and National Highways. This is now forecast for early December, many months later than originally planned.
- March 2025 looks like being the earliest date for the formal inspection of the plan to start

Although not stated in the document, "late 2025" is the new expected time by which the plan is expected to be formally adopted.

Reference was made to a recent appeal decision (Appeal Ref: APP/J1860/W/24/3339553) which sets out the most recent land supply issue. It also sets out clearly the school situation, which is something Councillors had been using recently as a reason for refusal. Applications refused by Councillors without a strong reason for refusal, such as highways or flooding, will be approved at appeal.