

RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minute Book

DRAFT

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2020 in the Village Hall.

Attendance

Cllr. K Abraham	Chairman
Cllr. R Gardiner	
Cllr. Mrs Brightman	
Cllr. N Tye	
Cllr. P Palmer	
Cllr. S Cruickshank	
Cllr. R King	

Mr Neil Johnson MGL Part meeting
There were five parishioners in attendance.

20/024 Apologies

Cllr. Hooton; KBC Cllr. Howes;

20/025 Local Policing

The latest crime report had been forwarded to councillors by the Clerk.

20/026 Mick George – Rushton Landfill Update

Cllr. King presented his report of the recent meeting with the Environment Agency, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. Mr Johnson responded to the report and confirmed that agreement had yet to be reached with landowners over any extension to the site. He said that a new flare had been purchased and would be installed in the next few days, becoming operational early next week. This should ensure more effective burning of gases. Residents commented on the situation and it was noted that complaints were being received from further afield.

Mr Johnson left at 7:46pm

20/027 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations in respect of the agenda items.

20/028 To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th January 2019

It was proposed by Cllr. Gardiner and seconded by Cllr. Cruickshank and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th January 2020 and previously circulated to Members, be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting.

20/029 Matters arising

In respect of the untidy state of the land alongside the railway, the Clerk had contacted KBC again and had been told that a further letter would be sent to the responsible party but the authority's powers were limited. It was understood from others that action may be forthcoming.

Cllr. Gardiner had looked into the purchase of new notice boards and had an estimate of £5600 + VAT for five units, one of which is for the church. It was agreed for Cllr. Gardiner to pursue this matter. **Action: RG**

20/030 Ward Councillor

Cllr. Howes was unavailable.

20/031 Rushton Community Minibus

The Clerk presented the latest statement of accounts. There had been no receipts since the last meeting.

Councillors had considered the insurance renewal documents and were happy with their content. The Clerk was asked to get a quote for adding No Claim Bonus Protection. **Action: Clerk**

Mr Jefferis would be retiring at the end of the month and it was agreed to present him with a token of the Parish Council's appreciation. The Clerk was asked to write to him thanking him for his work with the minibus over the years. **Action: Clerk**

20/032 Highway Issues

The Clerk reported on the situation with the speed restriction extension in Desborough Road. It was expected to be implemented shortly.

Chairman

Date

RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minute Book

The road surface under the railway bridge had deteriorated to a very poor state. The situation had been reported to The Street Doctor and repairs are due.

20/033 Recreation Ground

A tree was brought down in the recent gales and order had been placed with Tim Alden for its removal.

Gym equipment – the contract with Grantscape had been signed and the order placed.

20/034 New Albion Wind Farm

Cllr. King gave an update on the fund situation. Following the last PC meeting, grants were approved for the Gym (£3660) and Rushton Cricket Club £8200). This leaves a balance of £6,724.07 available.

20/035 Speed Awareness Cameras

Cllr Gardiner presented the data downloaded from the devices between 10th January and 6th March. He wished to make it clear that this information was held on the laptop purchased by the Parish Council for the sole purpose of managing the VAS data and he would be able to circulate copies by e-mail on request. The Clerk suggested passing the information to NCC's Speed Limit Panel and would let Cllr. Gardiner have the contact details. Action: RG/Clerk Following an instruction from NCC, the Pipewell device had been reset to 40MPH as it was just outside the 30mph restriction.

The continuing issues with HGVs were discussed.

20/036 Forthcoming Elections

The Clerk had received nomination packs and these were distributed to councillors. Cllr. Abraham had a few spare copies if potential candidates come forward from outside the Parish Council.

As the next meeting is the day following the election count for town and parish councils, the date of the meeting may have to be deferred unless the election is not contested.

20/037 VE Day 75 Celebrations

Cllr. Abraham had placed an item in the last few editions of The Triangle giving details of the arrangements for Friday 8th May. The event would be in the Village Hall in the afternoon with the Last Post at 2:55pm. The WI would be putting on a 1940s style tea and Cllr. Jim Hakewill would propose the toast. The Sunday Church Service would be at 10:30am.

20/038 County Councillor

Cllr. Hakewill was unavailable.

20/039 Parishioners' Questions

- i) Following the resetting of the Pipewell VAS to reflect the 40 mph restriction the effectiveness of the device had been removed.
- ii) It was felt that residents' concerns over the landfill site were going unheeded.
- iii) There were many potholes on the Pipewell to Oakley Hay roundabout and it was advised that these be reported to The Street Doctor.
- iv) The Pipewell VAS was not displaying the "Thank you" message.
- v) The number of Hamblin's' coaches passing through Pipewell had increased of late.
- vi) The Pipewell Village Committee offered to support the Parish Council in gathering evidence about breaches of the 7.5t AWR.

20/040 Finance

- (i) The current statement of accounts was presented by the Clerk. There had been no receipts since the last meeting.
- (ii) The Clerk presented the budget monitoring report for members' consideration.
- (iii) The following invoices were approved for payment, Proposed by Cllr. King and seconded by Cllr. Gardiner:

Minibus account-

Retrospective:

03.02.20 Fuel Genie. £89.39 D/D

R Reed part half-yearly salary £352.10 Cheque No. 247

Tyetune Auto Services £86.95 Cheque No.248

Ordinary account-

Retrospective:

23.01.20 Elan City £6,460.38 Cheque No.100873

25.02.20 Mick George Ltd. £2,449.00 Cheque No. 100874

Chairman

Date

RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Council Meeting Minute Book

Rushton Village Hall 4 x invoices £110.00 Cheque No. 100875
CPRE. £36.00 Cheque No. 100876
Cheque 100877 void
HMRC £264.40 Cheque No. 100878
R Reed part half-yearly salary etc. ££901.74 Cheque No, 100879
Tim Alden Tree Surgery Ltd. £440.00 Cheque No. 100880

(iv) HSBC has now completed its review of the Ordinary Account.

20/041 Planning Matters: To Receive the Planning Report

Cllr. King presented the Planning Report as follows.

KET/2020/0060: Application for an outdoor swimming pool and gazebo at The Paddocks, Pipewell. No objections

KET/2020/0079: Application for additional crop store farm off Desborough Road, Pipewell. No objections.

Mrs Anne Barton discussed KET/2020/0060 having previously registered to speak.

20/042 Correspondence

As per list circulated to Members.

20/043 items requiring urgent attention, for information or the next agenda

The current coronavirus outbreak was discussed in respect of its potential effect on council activities.

20/044 Date of Next Meeting

As alluded to under minute 20/036, the date of the next meeting may have to be deferred if there is a contested election. It was agreed to wait until after the close of nominations on 8th April before making a decision.

Subsequent note: Following the deferment of the elections to next year due to the Coronavirus outbreak, the original date of 12th May 2020 remains. This will follow the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting.

As there was no further urgent business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:50pm.

RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minute Book

Note of Meeting on 06 March 2020 re Rushton Landfill Site

Greg Wilkinson Environment Agency ("EA")
Mark Cows

with

Bob King Rushton Parish Council
Rob Gardiner
Peter Hooton
Sandy Cruickshank
Joy Cousins

- Meeting held at suggestion of Greg Wilkinson as he felt more could be achieved in such a forum rather than attending Parish Council meetings
- Current position is that current cell is nearly full and at present rate will be full by October.
- Room for one smaller cell but that may not be an economic way forward as there is a lot of earth to be shifted before a cell could be dug out
- Mick George Ltd ("MGL") have not as yet been able to come to an agreement with the owners of the land to the north of the site, to extend the operation
- EA are very much aware of the increased smell problems over the last year or so and have done a large amount of monitoring
- Odour comes from 2 different sources. There is a smell from the waste as it is tipped and a rotten eggs smell from the methane gas as the waste starts to break down.
- It is the methane gas smell that is causing the problem
- There are 2 ways of minimising this: the first is by means of the gas engine which converts the gas to electricity and this is fed into the grid. This engine is operated by a separate company called Aurora. There is no possibility of having an additional engine as with the Wind Farm feeding into the grid locally, there is over capacity.
- The second way is by flares and there are currently 2 flares in operation and these are, we are told, quite old and perhaps not as efficient as they might be.
- MGL has therefore ordered a new flare at a cost of £90K and this is, we are told, being installed in the week beginning 09 March. The new flare has a greater capacity than the two existing flares and it is hoped that this will substantially improve the situation
- EA will continue to monitor the situation and we have arranged another meeting in a couple of months. A representative of MGL will be invited. We will report back to the next council meeting on 12 May.
- In particular they want to do further tests in the Storefield cottages area when the last cell is capped.
- In the summer there are smells from whatever farmers spray on their fields. Last summer there was one smell that they have not yet been able to identify.
- They are aware that there have been many complaints from the Great Oakley area and from around the location of the Aldi store
- There have been complaints from other areas all of which have been investigated.
- They are not convinced about the deodorant sprays which MGL uses and they might ask MGL to stop using them for a couple of weeks so they can assess whether there is any effect.
- We are considering whether it might be worthwhile to organise a "drop in" session in the village hall
- We are assured that MGL have not broken any laws and they are not breaching any air quality standards.
- We are also assured that during and after the recent fires at the site, there were no dangerous toxins released.

Bob King

10 March 2020

Chairman

Date