

# **RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Parish Council Meeting Minute Book**

**DRAFT**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 virtually via the Zoom.**

### **Attendance**

Cllr. K Abraham	Chairman
Cllr. R King	
Cllr. P Palmer	
Cllr. S Cruickshank	
Cllr. P Hooton	
Cllr. Mrs J Brightman	
Cllr. Ms L White	
Cllr. K O'Brien	
Cllr. R Gardiner	

Mr Richard Reed	Clerk
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NCC Cllr. Jim Hakewill	Part meeting
KBC Cllr. David Howes	

Neil Johnson MGL	Part meeting
Gary Kirk Your Locale	Part meeting

There was one member of the public in attendance

### **21/026 Apologies**

NCC Cllr. Hakewill may be late arriving

### **21/027 Gary Kirk – Neighbourhood Plan**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Kirk who gave a presentation on the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan (NHP) and gave details of grant funding that is available for the process. He did not expect the creation of the unitary authorities to affect things at least initially. In answer to a query, he did not believe that transport policies could be incorporated in a NHP. Cllr. Hooton was unsure of the benefits that a NHP would give. Cllr. Abraham asked that all consider the issue and then the newly elected Parish Council could decide the way forward.

*Mr Kirk left at 8:15pm*

### **21/028 Local Policing**

The latest crime report had been forwarded to councillors by the Clerk together with a letter from them Police setting out its new focus for the county. Cllr. Hooton had attended a Zoom meeting convened by the Police and Crime Commissioner. Cllr. Ms White had now heard further about the Police Representative role and would see what commitment will be involved.

### **21/029 Mick George-Rushton Landfill Site Update**

Mr N Johnson gave an update of activities at the site. The effect of Covid has meant that cells were filling slower than normal requiring the installation of a flare and extraction equipment to reduce emissions. Cllr. Gardener spoke of the accumulation of litter in hedgerows. Mr Johnson said that MGL was carrying out litter picking on Oakley Road and Storefield Road but he would check these areas. The new flares that are being used burn at a higher temperature so there is a heat haze rather than a visible flame. The Environment Agency (EA) had been on site this day and there were no problems identified. Following a complaint in January that full details of the EA's report had not been presented at the meeting, although it is appended to the minutes on the website, Cllr. King read out the March update which again is appended to the minutes. Mr Johnson said he was happy with its content.

*Mr Johnson left at 8:30pm*

### **21/030 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations on the agenda items at this time.

**Chairman**

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### **21/031 To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12.01.21**

It was proposed by Cllr. King and seconded by Cllr. Gardiner and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and previously circulated to Members, be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting.

*The signing of the minutes will be carried out retrospectively upon return to face to face meetings.*

### **21/032 Matters arising**

Flooding: NCC are to arrange the inspection of the culverts under the A6003 to see if blockages contributed to the flooding.

Summer Holiday Camps: Following the Parish Council's successful Big Lottery bid, these will be arranged again this summer.

*Cllr. J Hakewill arrived at 8:35pm*

### **21/033 District Councillor**

Cllr. Howes said that the new shadow authority was in place and North Northamptonshire Council will come into being on 1<sup>st</sup> April. It was understood that the existing planning authority areas would remain.

As this will be his last Rushton Parish Council meeting, Cllr. Howes said that he had enjoyed working with councillors and Cllr. Abraham thanked him for his input over the years.

### **21/034 County Councillor**

Cllr. Hakewill presented his report. He is liaising with Nigel Tye in respect of the flooding and confirmed that NCC would be inspecting the A6003 culvert.

Cllr. Hakewill said he would be standing for the new council and if elected looked forward to working with the Parish Council again. Cllr. Abraham thanked him for his input over NCC matters.

### **21/035 Rushton Community Minibus**

The Clerk presented the latest statement of accounts. There had been no receipts since the last meeting owing to the Covid 19 situation. Details of the insurance renewal had been circulated and this was due at the beginning of April.

### **21/036 Highway Issues**

The area at the railway bridge in Station Road has been resurfaced and the junctions remarked. The Clerk is to check the situation over the additional signage at the Oakley Road junction. **Action: Clerk**

Following recent issues over the use of GY2, further consideration is to be given to the sign that was proposed a few years ago. A new quote is to be sought from Highways for a smaller version. **Action: Clerk**

It was noted that the High Street sign at the Station Road junction had now been replaced.

### **21/037 Recreation Ground**

Cllr. Gardiner is to arrange for a general clean-up of the park together with an inspection follow-up. The sign that was originally provided by KBC has now become illegible and needs replacing. The Clerk is to contact KBC. **Action: Clerk**

### **21/038 New Albion Wind Farm**

Cllr. King presented his report. Following a meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February, a grant of £7320 had been approved for the Village Hall leaving £10,928 until this year's grant is received in the summer. Consideration to be given for a bid for the village post-Covid party.

### **21/039 Village Sign**

Awaiting delivery details. Two locations had been identified and both landowners are happy to have the sign. Cllr. Gardiner is to let the Clerk have details of the chosen site so that a confirmation can be sent. **Action: RG/Clerk**

The Clerk is to send images of the design for the benefit of those who were not involved in the original discussions. **Action: Clerk**

### **21/040 Elections**

The Clerk will keep councillors updated as he receives information. When available, information will be posted on the website, notice boards and Facebook. **Action: Clerk**

### **21/041 Cllr. O'Brien: 10K Run**

Cllr. O'Brien proposed arranging a 10K run around Rushton and Pipewell, possibly in March 2022. Further discussions to be held. **Action: KOB**

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### **21/042 Litter Pick**

Cllr. O'Brien discussed recent work by individuals. An organised litter pick needs publicity. Saturday 27.03.21 was chosen with a start at 10:00am. 30 sets of equipment to be requested.

#### **Action: Clerk**

Cllr. O'Brien spoke of fly tipping under the railway bridge on Pipewell Road.

### **21/043 Parishioners Questions**

No issues were raised.

### **21/044 Finance**

(i) The Clerk presented the statement of accounts and the budget monitoring report. There had been no receipts since the last meeting.

(ii) The following invoices were approved for payment, Proposed by Cllr. Hooton and seconded by Cllr. O'Brien:

#### Ordinary account-

##### Retrospective

04.02.21 Alan Pendred £1344.00 Cheque No. 100906

22.02.21 R Gardiner £42.22 Cheque No. 100907

CPRE £36.00 Cheque No.100908

HMRC £369.80 Cheque No. 100909

R Reed £1016.39 Cheque no.100910

#### Minibus Account

R Reed £616.00 Cheque No. 252

(iii) Further to the agreed increase in the Clerk's salary at the last meeting, it was confirmed that this is backdated to 01.04.20.

### **21/045 Planning Matters: To Receive the Planning Report**

Cllr. King presented his report.

The following applications had been considered by the Planning Sub-group:

NK/2021/0095: Replace existing conservatory with single storey extension, 24 Station Road, Rushton. There were no objections.

KET/2020/0871: Camgrain Stores Ltd. Newton Road, Newton. Outside of the parish but it will affect Storefield Cottages. Objection on the grounds that it would change a storage operation in a rural location to an industrial one.

Birchfield Springs: KBC has issued an Enforcement Notice against Lyndon Thomas has appealed. The Parish Council has made representations to KBC and the Planning Inspectorate arguing that the appeal be rejected and the enforcement notice allowed to stand. A judicial Review has now been submitted and the public enquiry deferred until this has been settled.

The Old School House, 4 manor Road. KBC has launched an enforcement investigation in respect of an unauthorised development.

Storefield Aggregates have applied to the Traffic Commissioner to increase its fleet from 17 to 32 vehicles. As the Parish Council is not allowed to object, KBC will be objecting on our behalf.

### **21/046 Correspondence**

As per list circulated to Members.

### **21/047 items requiring urgent attention, for information or the next agenda**

Cllr. Hooton had joined a Zoom meeting with the North Northamptonshire Council and gave a report.

Cllr. Abraham said that the PCC had agreed to have the auto-winding system for the church clock.

### **21/048 Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021 immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. Whether via Zoom or in the Village Hall will depend on the restrictions prevailing at the time.

As there was no further urgent business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:49pm.

**Chairman**

**Date**

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**Rushton Landfill Site Update**

Environment Agency

8th March 2021

**Number of odour reports received**

November - 3

December – 18 January - 26

February - 32

**Odour reports**

The majority of the recent odour reports have been local to the landfill mainly around Rushton, Storefield and Pipewell.

**Odour assessments**

Five odour assessments were conducted by the Environment Agency in January and February.

Some strong odours have been noted on Oakley Road next to the landfill and to a lesser extent on the edge of Rushton village.

The weather has been cold and clam recently which leads to odours lingering around the area and not being dispersed by the wind.

**Site Update**

Some reviews of site monitoring and infrastructure have taken place, there are a number of new wells which will need to be installed during the coming year including more perimeter gas wells and some extra leachate wells across the site. The site gas management plan will also be reviewed to ensure it is kept up to date.

MGL are looking at ways they can improve the suction from the gas wells recently fitted in the current tipping cell in order to burn more gas in the flare and further reduce the odour potential.

A virtual site meeting was held between the Environment Agency, MGL and Aurora (gas contractor) to discuss general site operations and any upcoming issues.

Planned work for the coming months will include more site inspections and surveys of the landfill area with gas meters to try and identify any leaks from the gas infrastructure.