

## Rushton Parish Council

### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting

held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Peter Hooton (Chair), Mike Brightman (Vice Chair), Joy Brightman, Sandy Cruickshank, Beth Milne, Kevin O'Brien, Peter Palmer

**In attendance:** Emma Fontaine (Clerk/RFO), NNC Councillor Jim Hakewill, Alan Mayes

1	<b>Apologies</b> Apologies were received from Cllrs King, Parker and Turner.
2	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> There were no declarations of interest.
3	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b> The minutes of the meeting dated 19.07.2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
4	<b>Local Issues Updates</b> a) <b>Local Policing:</b> no report was received in advance of the meeting. b) <b>Mick George Landfill:</b> no update was received from Mick George. The Environment Agency provided a report in advance, and reports of local concerns were minimal. It was resolved to ask Mick George for an update in relation to works at the site. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b> c) <b>Camgrain:</b> no issues were raised and this item will be removed from future agendas. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b> d) <b>Speeding Issues:</b> Cllr Cruickshank advised that Highways have visited the village in relation to the speed monitoring device. They will conduct further work relating to the proposed location and then report back. It is proposed that this work will ultimately be funded by a Wind Farm Fund grant. e) <b>CPRE:</b> Alan Mayes attended on behalf of CPRE and explained their work, campaigns they are currently focussed on and the importance of both corporate and individual memberships. Rushton Parish Council has resolved to remain members for the 2023/24 membership year.
5	<b>Public Open Forum</b> There were no members of the public present.
6	<b>NNC Councillor Updates</b> Cllr Hakewill updated on NNC matters including Chief Executive Officer recruitment and drain cleaning. It was resolved for the Clerk to contact Highways in relation to the overflowing drains near Rushton Hall, which have already been reported to Fix My Street. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b>
7	<b>Finance</b> a) The accounts for Rushton Parish Council and the Community Minibus were reviewed and approved. b) Payments listed in the payment schedule were reviewed and approved. The Clerk reported that the external audit has been completed and the invoice for payment has been received. c) It was resolved to continue the Parish Online subscription for a further year. Cllr O'Brien will look into the One Network mapping. <b>ACTION: Cllr O'Brien.</b> It was resolved for Cllr Brightman to attend finance and budget training. d) It was resolved to open an instant access savings account with Unity Trust Bank for the immediate future, and consider options for the longer term. The Clerk will ask NCALC to consider a piece in their newsletter regarding savings accounts. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b> e) It was resolved to confirm the 3 year plan with the clock maintenance company (£630 plus VAT). Additionally, the Clerk requested Councillors consider that budget planning for 2024/25

	is about to start and any plans for projects requiring funding are raised next meeting. <b>ACTION: All.</b>
8	<b>Public Footpaths/Stiles</b> It was resolved to carry on with the project. A Wind Farm Fund grant application will be made for £12,868.80 approx. <b>ACTION Cllr M Brightman.</b>
9	<b>Email Addresses</b> It was resolved for the Clerk to continue discussing the options with our website provider, before considering alternative ways to secure email addresses. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b>
10	<b>Community Minibus</b> It was resolved to retain the current minibus for 2/3 more years and it was resolved to seek a grant of approximately £2,520 to give the vehicle a makeover to the bodywork and undertake some maintenance. <b>ACTION: Cllr M Brightman.</b>
11	<b>Recreation Ground</b> Cllr M Brightman advised that concrete bases are required for the picnic benches. He has sourced a local contractor who will charge £1,680. Given that it has not been possible to get anyone else to quote, it was resolved to accept this quote and proceed with the work. <b>ACTION: Cllr M Brightman.</b>
12	<b>Pocket Park</b> Cllr King provided an update in advance of the meeting and advised a work session will be held on Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 between 2.00 and 4.00pm. Volunteers were requested.
13	<b>Wind Farm Fund</b> Cllr King provided an update in advance of the meeting relating to the Fund finances. Cllr M Brightman advised we currently have 3 live grant applications in progress and the Northampton Community Foundation (NCF) will not accept any additional applications while we have open grants.
14	<b>Neighbourhood Plan</b> An Open Day will take place on Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2023. The final grant has been received. The total grants received total £18,000. Thanks were offered to all the volunteers who have dedicated their time to the advisory committees.
15	<b>Planning Committee</b> Cllr Turner advised the Council in advance of the meeting that there was no update this month.
16	<b>Speed Indicator Device – Pipewell</b> The Clerk reported that the issue was passed to the insurer and replacement costs are awaited. It was resolved to ask the residents of Pipewell if they would like a replacement device. Councillors expressed concern that an unsecured new sign would suffer the same fate. There will also be additional costs to installing a new sign. <b>ACTION: Cllr O'Brien.</b>
17	<b>D Day Commemorations 2024</b> It was resolved to hold an event on 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 at the Thornhill Arms. Entertainment will be provided. A £1,000 Wind Farm Fund Grant will be applied for. David Payne will light the beacon.
18	<b>Village Map</b> It was resolved to combine upgrading the bus shelter, with a new noticeboard and the new map. Councillors will investigate further for the next meeting, and the project will be renamed the Bus Shelter Renovation Project. <b>ACTION: Cllrs Cruickshank and M Brightman.</b>
19	<b>a) To review any further matters arising from the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Clerk will ask Richard Reed about the section 50 license. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b></li> <li>• The defibrillator project will be pursued next year.</li> <li>• The Clerk will continue to pursue the Pullman Close issue. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b></li> </ul> <b>b) To review any matters relating to Councillor and Clerk reports</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Clerk will consider a logo for Rushton Parish Council. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b></li> <li>Concern was raised regarding Storefield Aggregates and flooding on the road, which has previously been raised. The Clerk will ask Cllrs King and Turner to consider this in relation to the planning requirements. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b></li> <li>Cllr Cruickshank will review the RAIN (flooding) project and make contact with the organisers. <b>ACTION: Clerk and Cllr Cruickshank.</b></li> <li>A new street light map will be requested. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b></li> <li>Cllr Hooton is in liaison with NNC regarding maintenance works at the allotments.</li> <li>The Clerk will query the addition of reflectors on the bridge by Rushton Hall with Ian Boyes. <b>ACTION: Clerk.</b></li> </ul>
20	The meeting closed at 9.45pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7:00pm on <b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023</b> in the Village Hall.

#### ACTION SUMMARY – SEPTEMBER 2023

Item	Action	Who?
4b	It was resolved to ask Mick George for an update in relation to works at the site.	Clerk
4c	The Camgrain item will be removed from future agendas.	Clerk
6	The Clerk will contact Highways in relation to the overflowing drains near Rushton Hall, which have already been reported to Fix My Street.	Clerk
7c	Cllr O'Brien will look into the One Network mapping.	Cllr O'Brien
7d	Ask NCALC to consider a piece in their newsletter regarding savings accounts	Clerk
7e	Additionally, the Clerk requested Councillors consider budget planning for 2024/25 is about to start and any plans for projects requiring funding are raised next meeting.	All
8	A Wind Farm Fund grant application will be made for £12,868.80 approx.	Cllr M Brightman
9	The Clerk will continue discussing the options with our website provider, before considering alternative ways to secure email addresses	Clerk
10	Minibus maintenance will be undertaken, via a Wind Farm Fund grant application totalling approximately £2,520.	Cllr M Brightman
11	Cllr M Brightman will accept the quote for concrete bases at the Recreation Ground.	Cllr M Brightman
16	Ask the residents of Pipewell if they would like a replacement speed device.	Cllr O'Brien
18	Regarding the bus shelter renovation, Councillors will investigate further for the next meeting.	Cllrs Cruickshank and M Brightman
19a	The Clerk will ask Richard Reed about the section 50 license.	Clerk
19a	The Clerk will continue to pursue the Pullman Close issue.	Clerk
19b	The Clerk will consider a logo for Rushton Parish Council.	Clerk
19b	Ask Cllrs King and Turner to consider the Storefield flooding works in relation to their planning requirements.	Clerk
19b	Cllr Cruickshank will review the RAIN project and make contact with the organisers.	Clerk and Cllr Cruickshank
19b	A new street light map will be requested.	Clerk
19b	The Clerk will query the addition of reflectors on the bridge by Rushton Hall with Ian Boyes.	Clerk