

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council meeting held at Victoria Rooms Ruyton XI Towns on Tuesday 2nd July at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Trevor Allison, Kerry Coldwell, Mervyn Eyles, Rob Hamlett, Nick Kynaston, Anne Mitchell, and Luke Penton. (Cllr Bibow arrived at 7:44 pm.)

In attendance: Two members of the public, Cllr Nick Bardsley (Shropshire Council), Sarah Windridge (Clerk), Dianne Dorrell and Ray Wickson from SALC.

Absent: Cllr Paul Dean, Cllr Rob Hamlett.

32/24 The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everybody.

33/24 Apologies. Apologies were received from Cllr Paul Dean and Cllr Robert Hamlett.

34/24 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Mayne declared that the hanging baskets being created by Rustic Bloom are being prepared at her farmhouse. The Chairman thanked Cllr Mayne for declaring the information.

35/24 Public Session

Standing orders were suspended at 7:33 pm

A member of the public asked about the arboretum and Cllr Coldwell confirmed that this was an agenda item for later discussion.

Mr Ray Wickson from SALC (Shropshire Association of Local Councils) addressed the meeting and confirmed that he had visited the Council previously in November 2023 to provide information and support which was required due to changes within the council at that time.

Mr Wickson stated that he was very impressed with how the council have filled Councillor vacancies and allocated roles within the council. He has read the minutes of the meetings and is very impressed with how the order of business is being carried out. Mr Walker also stated that the Council has been very open and transparent. Mr Wickson sits on the accreditation board of the Local Council Award Scheme and has been checking the Parish Council website to see whether the Council is close to achieving the award. After viewing the website, the minutes and agendas, and the policies, Mr Wickson feels that the Council is on the way to success in applying for the Foundation award of the Local Council Award Scheme.

Mr Wickson stated that the Council are almost ready to apply for this award, and confirmed that the Clerk, when she has some more time available, can apply for this award on behalf of the Council.

Mr Wickson particularly pointed out that the Council's Dignity and Respect at Work policy is very good, and expressed hope that the values in this policy are reciprocated by members of the public.

Mr Wickson also stated that he is impressed with the Council's Vexatious Policy which is very sensible and a good idea. The Community Engagement Policy is also very good, and Mr Wickson noted that the Parish Council are operating according to this policy with the best of efforts. An example of this is the error regarding the trees in the village. The Parish Council realised through correspondence that it would have to re-visit this situation. and are in the process of addressing it. This is clear evidence that the Community Engagement Policy does work. Parish Councils do not always get things right, but Mr Wickson wanted to say well done to the Parish Council for admitting that a mistake has been made and trying to rectify it. Mr Wickson added that it is a pity that other Parish Councils do not operate as efficiently as this one.

Mr Wickson also thanked the Clerk for her hard work and the Chairman for being so approachable.

Cllr Coldwell thanked Mr Wickson for being there for the Parish Council and providing much needed support through this time of change. Cllr Coldwell also confirmed that she had thanked SALC for their support in her Chairman's Report which is on the Parish Council website.

36/24 Minutes of the meeting held 4th June 2024

Copies of the minutes have been distributed to members of the Council and displayed on the website.

Minutes of the meeting on 4th June were approved and signed.

37/24 Reports

a) Police report

PC Mabe read out his report, which is also attached to the minutes as an appendix, and confirmed that he would report to the Parish Council on the three chosen priorities which are speed, theft and drugs.

There have been no reports of speeding through village, no reports of drug use or drug dealing and no report of thefts.

Cllr Eyles asked whether there was a website link to the safer neighbourhoods team for the new Parish Council website. PC Mabe will provide the Parish Council with the contact details.

A member of the public asked whether the Parish Council priorities are appropriate, and PC Mabe confirmed that there were no other areas which he felt the Parish Council were not being kept informed about.

b) SC Cllr Nick Bardsley

Cllr Bardsley shared the following report, which is also attached to the minutes as an appendix.

Enforcement issues

The portfolio holder for Planning Cllr Chris Schofield met the Chair, Cllr Tamarin Bibow and Cllr Bardsley on 14th June. A productive discussion took place about local enforcement issues and sites in the village were visited. There was a follow up meeting on July 2nd.

Cllr Coldwell reported that regarding The Grange, officers are in communications with the landowner's agent, in relation to addressing the structural stability issues that was the reason for refusal of the planning application to regularise the breach. The adjacent affected owner is aware of this updated position on this matter. Cllr Coldwell also reported that regarding the sandpit site, the owner has given an undertaking to undertake no further works to develop the site without planning permission. The removal of vegetation was not a planning breach, and any loss of habitat, is a wildlife crime issue and the police are the enforcing body. Shropshire Council are not aware of any new development of the site.

Baschurch Railway Station proposals

Cllr Bardsley reported that there had been good progress on this but there is some disagreement regarding the impact on bus services. Cllr Bardley met the Chair of Baschurch Parish Council and representatives of SLC Rail via Teams on June 12th. It was a productive meeting. A short briefing session with Officers is planned for July 19th.

New Medical Centre: Prescott Surgery

Cllr Bardsley met the Chair of Baschurch Parish Council and the Group Practice Manager on June 21st to get a report on the progress of this. It was agreed that the first priority is to gain access to the Primary Care Network Estates Strategy.

Cllr Bardsley also reported that he has continued to contact Emma Walker at Highways for an update on the feasibility reports for the Community Infrastructure Levy project. Cllr Coldwell confirmed that she has

been through all her emails to check all the contact the Parish Council have had, and there has been no news for months. Further emails would be sent by Cllr Bardsley and Cllr Coldwell and the clerk to ask for an update.

c) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that she and Cllr Eyles had contacted Hugo Fox and the new website is being constructed. The new laptop has been purchased and the Clerk will set this up as well as creating new email addresses for Councillors.

The Clerk has put forward Cllr Mitchell as a representative for the Parish Council on the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee but has not heard anything further. Cllr Mitchell confirmed that she has an interview next week.

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council submitted a response to the Local Plan on Friday 7th June.

Cllr Eyles reported that the website was undergoing the initial draft next week and will linking into planning at Shropshire Council and other sites relating to the parish such as the mobile library, parish map, Fix my street, and a link to Network One. The website will also be more mobile friendly, with built in accessibility.

Cllr Eyles asked Councillors whether they feel that the Parish Council should advertise village businesses such as café Eleven. It was suggested that there could be a link to the local village website instead.

Action- Cllr Eyles to look into this.

38/24 Parish Matters, updates from councillors

a) War Memorial Cleaning

Councillors reviewed five quotes and details for war memorial cleaning. Cllr Eyles explained that all contractors used the DOFF cleaning system. Three of the companies completed generic cleaning and the other two were more experienced with cleaning and maintenance of historical buildings such as churches. One company came to visit Cllr Eyles at the site and showed photos of previous works completed. All Councillors felt that the quote received from this company was competitive, and likely to be accurate based on a physical inspection of the site.

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council would instruct Harper Industrial Services to clean the memorial.

Cllr Eyles confirmed that a nearby resident will allow the contractors to use their outside tap.

It was RESOLVED to offer financial compensation to the resident for using the tap once the works are completed.

A member of the public asked about the plaque in the memorial and Cllr Eyles confirmed that the plaque will be temporarily removed, the memorial will be cleaned and then the plaque would be put back in.

Cllr Allison asked about road closures. **Action – the Clerk is to follow up emails asking about road closures, and liaise with the person putting up the plaque.**

b) Community Orchard.

Cllr Coldwell confirmed that she has been advised by Dianne Dorrell at SALC that a public meeting could be held to engage with the community regarding the orchard.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would display a presentation at the village show on 14th September. The existing trees can be moved in Autumn which would be better than in Summer.

Action – Clerk to contact the school again regarding gifting the trees to the school.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk will make a poster for the school fair on Saturday 13th July advertising the stall at village show on 14th September

- c) A proposal for Bomere Heath CE Primary School & St John the Baptist CE Primary School to convert to academy status and join the Shropshire Church of England Academies Trust.

Letters regarding the school consultation regarding converting to an academy were circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting.

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council would not submit a response as a council, but individual councillors would submit their own opinions as part of the consultation.

Action – Clerk to add this to the Parish Council website to ensure that residents are aware of the consultation.

- d) AED Units.

Cllr Coldwell is going to check whether it is necessary to check AEDs each week during the summer holidays as once per month is the usual timeframe. Cllrs Bibow and Eyles agreed to join a rota if weekly checking is required.

Action – Clerk to check with the Circuit regarding frequency of checks.

- e) Hanging Baskets

Cllr Coldwell reported that the hanging baskets would be put up this week in the village.

- f) Meeting with the Cabinet Minister for planning

This had been reported previously as part of Cllr Bardsley's report.

- g) Training for Clerk and Councillors

Action – Clerk to send out any upcoming training events to councillors and book any required training.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk will attend CILCA training when available.

Cllr Coldwell informed the council that the village hall had submitted change to the dissolution clause with the Charities Commission. The Parish Council is the custodial trustee so needs to have the title and make sure that deeds are safe.

The Parish Council is to get hold of the deeds, keep them safe and register them with the Land Registry. The cost would be approximately £170 and this will be added as a future agenda item.

Action – Cllr Coldwell to send a letter to the chair of village hall committee asking for the deeds.

39/24 Finance reports

- a) Bank Reconciliation was signed ahead of the meeting by two councillors and approved. The following payments were approved:

Date	Payment to	Descriptions	Net	VAT	Gross
03.07.24	RXI Towns Village Hall	Village Hall Show sponsorship	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00
03.07.24	SDH Accounting	Internal Audit Fee	£225.85	£0.00	£225.85
03.07.24	SALC	ALC Affiliation Fees	£584.81	£0.00	£584.81
03.07.24	Sarah Windridge	Salary for June	£925.69	£0.00	£925.69
03.07.24	Sarah Windridge	Salary for July (to be paid 3rd August)	£794.52	£0.00	£794.52
03.07.24	Sarah Windridge	Purchase laptop	£365.83	£73.17	£439.00
			£3,396.70	£73.17	£3,030.87

- b) It was RESOLVED to pay £500 grant application for the Village Hall Competition

Cllr Bardsley left the meeting at 9 pm

40/24 Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, and other policies

Updated Financial Regulations based on Model Financial Regulations from SALC were circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting. Standing Orders and Code of Conduct were circulated ahead of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that a working group would be created consisting of Cllrs Coldwell, Mitchell and Eyles to go through existing policies and renew these as necessary.

Mr Wickson confirmed that it would be possible to set up a Finance and Governance committee.

Action- this would be set as an agenda at a subsequent meeting.

41/24 Planning Decisions and Applications

- a) 24/02236/FUL Erection of single storey extension to side of existing dwelling 2 Birch Grove, Ruyton Xi Towns, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1LH

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council would SUPPORT subject to local opinion.

41/24 Future agenda items:

No further items were added to a future agenda.

42/24 Next Council meeting 3rd September 2024 (Full Council), 7:00 pm at Victoria Rooms

The meeting was closed at 21.03.

Chairman.....

Date.....

Appendices

1.Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council report from Shropshire Councillor Nick Bardsley

Parish Council: 2nd July 2024

Planning

Enforcement issues

The portfolio holder for Planning Cllr Chris Schofield met the Chair, Cllr Tamarin Bibow and me on 14th June. We had a productive discussion about local enforcement issues and visited sites in the village.

There is a follow up meeting on July 2nd , via Teams, which unfortunately I can't attend. I have a long standing medical appointment at the time scheduled.

Baschurch Railway Station proposals

The Chair of Baschurch Parish Council and I met representatives of SLC Rail via Teams on June 12th. It was a productive meeting.

SLC plan to talk directly to some of the local institutions where the Chair and/or I have been in touch. They wish also to talk to SC officers responsible for local bus services. Our view is that the opening of the railway station will *increase bus usage*. SLC seem to believe that the station opening will do the opposite!

The Chair and I will have a short briefing session with Officers on July 19th.

New Medical Centre: Prescott Surgery

Local Parish Councils and I have been trying very hard, over many years to get some momentum into discussions - with only limited success.

The Chair of Baschurch Parish Council and I met the Group Practice Manager on June 21st, in an attempt to take stock.

We agreed that the first priority is to gain access to the Primary Care Network Estates Strategy. Hopefully a formal request will loosen the log jam.

NB 240701



Oswestry Rural South

Safer Neighbourhood Team parish
council report

Date:

Oswestry Rural South

Team email: oswestryrs.snt@westmercia.police.uk

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Carroll **Mobile:** 07870166222

PCSO Mabe **Mobile** 07870219669

Community priorities:

1. Speeding
2. Thefts
3. Drugs

Priority 1.

There have not been any reports of speeding vehicles in the parish between the last diarised meeting of Tuesday 7th May to today`s date.

I have not had a chance to get to the area yet but will do so as soon as possible. I am not certain if Stuart has in the above time frame.

Priority 2.

There have not been any reports of thefts of any type, farm nor domestic in the same time bracket.

Priority 3.

I`m glad to say that we have not received any reports of drug use or dealing.

Emerging trends - Requests for information - other.

Please allow me to re-introduce myself.

My name is Kurt Mabe and I used to be one of the local PCSO until I transferred to the Oswestry town beat.

I have recently been seconded back to Oswestry rural south after about 7 or 8 years in Oswestry.

I will be one of the faces you see and get to know over the coming months, so please come and say hello.

My details are above along with the email address for the SNT team.

Kind regards,

Kurt Mabe