

Rushall Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 29th November 2025

7.30pm, Rushall Village Hall

Attendees:

Mr. Colin Gale (Chairperson) (CG)
 Dr. Richard Tilbury (RT)
 Mr. Nigel Carson (NC)
 Mr. John Rogers (JR)
 Mr. Iain Goodfellow (IG)
 Mrs. Claire Ridge (Clerk) (CR)

Mrs Mary Gillmore, Co-ordinator Kennet Group CPRE (Part Time)

1. Apologies:	Action
Mr. Paul Oatway (PO)	
2. Best Kept Village Presentations	
The awards for Best Kept Small Village were presented to RPC by Mary Gillmore, CPRE. Mary presented the 1 st Place in the Kennet District to RT on behalf of RPC and 2 nd Place for the Wiltshire County was presented to JR on behalf of the council.	
3. Minutes of PC Meeting 17th July 2025	
Minutes acceptance proposed by RT, second by NC.	
4. Declaration of interest	
None	
5. Correspondence	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. CG identified that we had received the Governance Survey from Wiltshire Council and he had completed the return. b. The WALC October Newsletter was received and contained the roles of the council. Of specific note was the handling and definition of confidential items at Parish Council Meetings. c. The report from CPRE on Best Kept Village overall was very glowing on Rushall but did identify a few items for the council to 	

<p>consider/action.</p> <p>d. Wiltshire Council Highways formally advised that with the start of the winter weather the Parish Steward Rota would be impacted as the Stewards were also responsible for gritting the highways.</p>	
<p>6. Matters arising from Minutes of Meeting 17th July 2025</p> <p>None</p>	
<p>7. Budget/Precept/Annual Audit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current balance: £16,224.42 • Precept – proposed by IG and seconded by JR, all agreed • Outgoings: Footpath section between Chudleigh Cottage and the Wheelwright £5,000, also paying £4.25 per month. CG checked all regular outgoings have been billed. Phase 3 of the Elm Row Footpath will not be billed until 2026. A bill from Wiltshire Council has been paid for the relatively newly identified election charges of £280. This is for the elections in May 2026. The introduction of the line item for this charge in 2024 of £100 per annum is covering this item but will need to be reviewed. 	<p>CG</p>
<p>8. Police Report</p> <p>No reports received, but CR to look into whether these have been missed.</p> <p>Further information can be gained with the link below:</p> <p>Wiltshire PCC home (wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk)</p>	<p>CR</p>
<p>9. Planning Applications Considered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None received for Rushall • The Wiltshire Council Local Plan which is with the Inspectors has stalled in its review as the Inspectors have asked for more information. 	
<p>10. Village Hall Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular events, craft and cuppa – well supported. Upcoming events are Bingo night and coffee mornings. • Shed is now up to the rear of the hall. Storage flood signs and gel sacks belonging to the PC. CG has had one key cut and given it to IG but will get another key cut for NC. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas decorations for village hall and church. RPC normally donate. It was put to a vote how much would be donated, and it was agreed £100 would be paid to each. 	
<p>11. Community Speed Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The team have been out nine times the last quarter. They have three locations they work from and it seems to be having an impact on slowing drivers down. 	
<p>12. Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 3 – roadworks start 13th April 2026. Road closure will be no more than three weeks Phase 4 – will join to the other footpath. CG went to Area Board on Monday and the project was put forward for substantive grant. RPC will know in February if it has been approved - £60k. CG liaising with local landowner. 	
<p>13. Newsletter</p> <p>CG to produce a winter newsletter.</p>	CG
<p>14. Website</p> <p>IG to take photos of the pond and village to add to the website.</p>	CR
<p>15. Safe Pedestrian Access Scheme</p> <p>Areas to consider for future work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area close to the Horse Chestnut tree by the school, by the drop kerb. Pedestrians forced to walk into the road. Grass bank outside the village hall <p>Also, Yew Tree planking is breaking down – CG to raise with the Parish Steward or will speak to Highways</p>	CG
<p>16. AOB</p> <p>a) Flood Task Force; CG has attended many of the flood meetings taking place in the area. They talk of being prepared with ditch and gully clearance, and ensuring the parish have sufficient gel sacks. CG believes Rushall is prepared.</p> <p>b) Rushall School – appears to be growing in numbers and doing very well. They recently had an Ofsted inspection with an excellent outcome.</p> <p>c) Highways – may not have the steward as regularly as they are on</p>	ALL

<p>gritting duty</p> <p>d) Community Emergency Plan – Completed for 2025.</p> <p>e) BKV – Rushall came second in the small village round. CG organizing the tree guard for the oak tree and walnut tree. CG trying to replace the board by the stocks. There is a new sign to the village from Upavon ‘North Wessex Downs’.</p> <p>f) Data Protection – ICO paid, May 2025.</p> <p>g) Speeding Petition – ongoing.</p> <p>h) SID – Currently on at each end of Rushall.</p> <p>i) Risk Assessments – Will be updated for 2026</p> <p>j) Salt Bins – didn’t use them in 2024/2025 winter so still full.</p> <p>k) Whistledown Path –it is well used.</p> <p>l) VDS questionnaire -CG still collating</p> <p>m) Defib – JR confirmed its still working. Budget put aside for defib if required to replace the equipment.</p> <p>16. Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the council resolved to move into Part 2.</p>	<p>CG</p> <p>CR</p> <p>CG</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p>17. Dates of next meetings:</p> <p>Thursday 26th February 2026</p> <p>Thursday 28th May 2026 (AGM)</p> <p>Thursday 16th July 2026</p> <p>Thursday 26th November 2026</p>	
<p>Meeting concluded at 21.00hrs</p>	
<p>Signed:</p>	