

**Rushall Parish Council**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Thursday 26 May 2022**  
**Rushall Village Hall 7.30pm**

1. Apologies

Lorraine Wornes

2. Minutes of last Parish Council Annual General Meeting held 27 July 2021, to be signed by CG. Accepted

3. Declaration of interest

None

4. Annual Review

RUSHALL PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REVIEW 2021-2022

By Colin Gale

**Introduction**

This year has again been both different and challenging due to the COVID pandemic that has impacted all our lives and activities.

**PC Meetings**

Four scheduled meetings took place and the AGM. All of the scheduled meetings were held in person in the Village Hall. The normal precept working group was satisfied via email exchanges.

**Pewsey Area Board**

Councillors Colin Gale and John Rogers continue to regularly represent Rushall at PAB's bimonthly meetings, however, all the PAB's but one were satisfied via virtual meetings and the frequency was reduced. CG also sits on the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) and Pewsey Community Area Partnership (PCAP). The CATG meetings were all satisfied via virtual events but the PCAP meetings returned to being held in person.

**Village Events**

All of the many regular village events were suspended due to the pandemic and the village hall has only recently started to open to all activities. The first Coffee Morning was held in April.

The Church initially opened for private worship but progressively public services were held. Fortunately the Christmas Carol Service and Christmas Day service did take place. The number of monthly services has reduced due to the shortages of clergy.

The Parish Council did manage to achieve its annual Village Spring Clean but there was no bulb planting this year.

## **People**

The population of the village has stayed fairly constant although there has been a number of families moving during the year but they have been replaced by other young families. The current total is now around 161 including 38 children Sadly we had 1 death, Jane Wookey.

## **Planning Applications/ Planning Issues**

Whistledown Upavon – the development build again progressed significantly during the year. The footpath from the development to Rushall has continued to be an issue. Even if Rushall PC manage to get the footpath to Rushall Drove as it currently stands there will be a gap between the Rushall footpath and the termination of the Whistledown footpath.

Rushall Manor – The rebuild/restoration of the main house and out buildings etc continued through the year. The owner purchased the adjacent field and submitted planning for stables and an office on the site. The rest of the field would remain as a paddock with additional tree planting. The PC had no objections.

France Farm – Due to the pandemic there has been no progress on the approved development.

The Rectory – The development continued during the year the build of the new outbuilding has not commenced.

Thatchers Cottage – The build of the oak framed double garage with a workroom started and is ongoing.

Chalk Barn – The PC received a planning application for 2 single storey extensions for a kitchen and staff room. The PC reviewed the plans and had no objections.

The Old House – The approved planning to flatten the existing garages and build a single storey unit on the site was submitted for renewal based on the time period for development approaching expiry. The PC raised no objection.

The construction of the extension of the footpath from Church Lane to the bus stop was carried out in June 2021. This resulted in a 4 week road closure. The PC took the opportunity to get some drainage work done and some road surface patching at the same time. The Openreach service cover manholes which were also scheduled unfortunately did not get carried out.

The next phase of this footpath from the bus stop to Manor Cottage was submitted to the WC substantive fund grant scheme but was unsuccessful. Work on this stretch will be carried out in 2022 to improve the re-submission for grant funding later in the year.

## **Policing**

Regular Police reports were received at PC meetings

## **Communications**

Colin Gale has produced 3 editions of the Rushall Parish News.

The new Rushall community website was maintained during the year by Claire Ridge along with the notice board at the Village Hall.

## **Precept**

The Precept was increased by 7.09%.

Donations were made to PCAP and Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership.

### **Best Kept Village Competition**

The competition for 2021/2022 did proceed but unfortunately Rushall came a close second in the district round. There were a number of issues highlighted by the judging which the PC will address for next year's submission which will be an electronic submission rather than a paper copy.

### **CATG**

Colin Gale actively progressed the Rushall issues at CATG. The outline footpath drawings for the next phase of the footpath to support a substantive bid were produced. However, it appears that outline drawings are now not sufficient and full drawing schemes are required supported by the topography survey

### **Community Speed Watch (CSW)**

The team led by John Rogers meet regularly one week in 3 up until December 2021. The team hope to resume again later in 2022. The other team members are Colin Gale and Richard Tilbury. Colin Gale is the co-ordinator for the Speed Indicator Device (SID) that is rotated between 7 parishes. In March 2022 a second SID was purchased which means that parishes will get a SID much more frequently.

### **Defibrillator**

The defibrillator remains in the telephone kiosk and is maintained.

### **Acknowledgements**

The Chairman would like to thank his fellow councillors, and our Clerk, Claire Ridge for all their hard work throughout the year. I would also like to thank our Wiltshire Councillor Paul Oatway for his help and advice.

The PC would also like to thank Geoff Perry for the maintenance work along the Rushal/Charlton footpath.

Colin Gale - Chairman Rushall Parish Council

May 2022

5. Declaration of new Councillors – all re-elected.
6. Election of Chairman to Parish Council. RT proposed CG, JR seconded.
7. Questions from the floor
8. Dates of next Annual General Meeting, Thursday May \*\*\*\*\*