

## Rushall Parish Council

### Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024

7.30pm, Rushall Village Hall

*Attendees:*

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

Mrs. Claire Ridge (Clerk) (CR)

Mr Keith Rogers (KR)  
PC Chris Wickham (CW)  
Mr. Paul Oatway (PO)

**1. Apologies:**

None

**Action**

**2. Minutes of PC Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Minutes acceptance proposed by NC, second by RT.

**3. Declaration of interest**

None

**4. Correspondence**

- Charlton St Peter's letter to Cllr Clewer regarding potholes on the A342 dated 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024; Rushall were copied in on the responding correspondence from Charlton St Peter and Wilsford. The council is in agreement that the state of the roads are a concern.
- Dawn Wilson's letter to Cllr Clewer regarding the potholes within Pewsey Vale. Dawn has booked in a meeting for early April with Cllr Clewer, Paul Oatway and other Pewsey Councillors will be in attendance. CG hopes to attend. CG to construct an email to Cllr Clewer cc'ing other authors to confirm Rushall's view on local roads.
- Correspondence dated 22nd May; Council calls on Government for more guidance over solar farms from Wiltshire Council. Local councils and residents invited to meet at the same time as this meeting; 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

**CG**

<p><b>5. Matters arising from Minutes of 7th March 2024</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CG to email councillor Clewer regarding PCAP's letter regarding state of Highways and Dawn Wilson's letter regarding potholes in Pewsey Vale. CG confirmed this was actioned. Work has begun to The Lydeway, but the area beyond Planks Farmshop still needs work and unfortunately a pothole has resurfaced just beyond Conock.</li> <li>• Response to Highways matters – CG responded to say the questions had not been answered.</li> <li>• Briefing Note 24/11 Pre-election period, from Wiltshire Council. Parish Councillors needs to read and digest.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>6. Budget/Precept/Annual Audit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Current balance: £19,295.23</b></li> <li>• <b>Budget/Further invoices:</b> Election Costs - £82.50 Next section of footpath - TBC</li> </ul>	
<p><b>7. Police Report</b></p> <p>PC Chris Wickham was in attendance.</p> <p>Quarterly PCC reports are submitted to the clerks. One incident; a traffic collision, but no thefts or break ins. All in all, a safe policing area. Some speed enforcement – two occasions in the last two months, within Rushall itself and further enforcement in the surrounding area. This is complimented by the work from the local speed awareness teams.</p> <p>A team member hopes to join the coffee morning, but this may not be imminent. It is down to the individual to give up their spare time to attend.</p> <p>Pewsey has one Police Officer and a share of a second.</p> <p>Updates can be found on the PCC website below.</p> <p><a href="http://wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk">Wiltshire PCC home (wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk)</a></p>	
<p><b>8. Planning Applications Considered</b></p> <p>None for Rushall but there is local interest regarding the Solar Farms in North Wiltshire. Awaiting further information but not supposed to be visible from Wilsford. Thought to be circa 1,600 acres. RPC await updates from Wiltshire Council's meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> May.</p>	

<p><b>9. Village Hall Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CG – attended the VH AGM in May. VH needs £9,000 pa to cover basic overheads/minimum maintenance.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>10. Community Speed Watch</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IG – now sharing the speed gun with Manningford Bruce; two weeks on and two weeks off, approximately three sessions per fortnight. Lost third Speed Watch site outside Chudleigh Cottage. PCC feel it is too dangerous for the team.</li> <li>Looking for new members, two vacancies have just opened.</li> <li>CR to put advert on the website, and will send out an email. CG to include in newsletter</li> <li>RT has decided to stand down. A huge thank you to Richard Tilbury for all his help for the years of Speed Watch in the village. KR agreed to join the team.</li> </ul>	<b>CG/CR</b>
<p><b>11. Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG)</b></p> <p>CG – Phase 3 of the safe pedestrian footpath beyond Elm Row towards The Drove is up for bids, to see if the project can gain funding.</p> <p>- Hazelnut Cottage area; hoping to gain money from Highways Budget. Still waiting to hear.</p>	
<p><b>12. Neighbourhood Watch</b></p> <p>CG – IG asked for more information on Rushall’s Neighbourhood Watch, not publicised. Agreed to put a new feed on the website, particularly advertising the Bobby Van Trust and the risk assessments that can be performed on people’s properties in the village. CG confirmed there are active members in the village co-ordinated by CG. IG asked to be kept in the loop.</p>	<b>CG/CR</b>
<p><b>13. Newsletter</b></p> <p>CG The next newsletter will be Spring 2024.</p>	<b>CG</b>
<p><b>14. Website</b></p> <p>CR to check the pages on the website to ensure that it is up to date. KR will check and update CR.</p>	<b>CR</b>
<p><b>15. Safe Pedestrian Access Scheme</b></p> <p>See LHFIG</p>	
<p><b>16. AOB</b></p> <p>a) Flood Plan; 27<sup>th</sup> March – Upavon Flood meeting. Abandoned due to lack of attendees. 27<sup>th</sup> April was the Hybrid Meeting. CG highlighted that the ditch at Church Lane needed to be cleared. Fed by drains from Devizes crossroads so is Highways responsibility.</p>	

<p>Rushall Bridge has inadequate drainage.</p> <p>CG wrote to Wiltshire Council to complain about MyWilts which is a means to report problems. It isn't functioning correctly and therefore CG has been unable to report concerns.</p> <p>CG will ask for more gel bags which were very efficient. JR requested RPC buy sooner rather than later.</p> <p>Storage – currently being stored in residents' garages but it would make more sense to have a shed for equipment. CG will speak to the local farmer.</p> <p>b) CIL funding – CG investigated. No budget for the parishes. No change.  c) Rushall School – no update ( remove)  d) Highways – response after meeting in November 2023. Incomplete answers as referred to in section 4. CG has responded asking for more information. PO has reinforced this. PO has highlighted issue at Oare, collapsed road due to burst water pipe. Ongoing issues regarding Wessex Water and Wiltshire Council on who owns infrastructure underground. Richard Youens asked about Elm Road resurfacing – due to be debated on 17<sup>th</sup> June. That stretch is up for review. CR responded during meeting.  e) Solar Farm – PO updated the council on the Solar Farm meeting earlier in the day. The farm will be seen from Chirton, Marden, Beechingstoke etc. Now collating local opinions. PO said 'Prime' agricultural land should not be used for solar farms. IG asked if the local community will benefit. PO confirmed this but the extent of the benefits has not yet been confirmed, or which villages will benefit. Planning application will be submitted for pre-application soon. PO will take this to Eastern Planning so people can have their say. This way Wiltshire Council will be consulted and not just planning. Access will be from the boundary road, likely to be Rushall Drove.  f) Emergency Plan – CR to update  g) BKV – CG submitted. Judging in July  h) Data Protection – ICO paid  i) Speeding Petion – no comment  j) SID – RPC will be applying for the extra SID  k) Risk Assessments – ongoing  l) Salt Bins – Full  m) Whistledown Path – looking overgrown. Highways don't appear to be interested in adopting it. CG to speak with Upavon PC.</p>	<p><b>CG</b></p> <p><b>CG</b></p> <p><b>CR</b></p>
<p><b>17. Dates of next meetings:</b></p> <p>7.30pm Thursday 18th, July 2024  7.30pm Thursday 28th, November 2024</p>	
<p><b>Meeting concluded at 21.25hrs</b></p>	
<p><b>Signed:</b></p>	