

**RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**19 APRIL 2010**

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The Parish Council held an ordinary meeting at The Memorial Hall; Ruyton XI Towns on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 7.30 pm.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Mr T. Allison; Mrs A. Caesar-Homden (Chair of meeting); Mr J. Hamlett; Mr M Lewis ( arrived late); Mrs M. Lycett; Mrs D. Needham; Mrs R. Slowley & Mrs A. White.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk – Sue Hackett; SC Playbuilder – Dorothy Jones & 12 members of the public.

1.10 WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN & APOLOGIES: The Clerk announced that the Chairman Colin Case had sent his apologies and been unable to attend the meeting due to flights being suspended as a result of the Icelandic volcano activity. As a result it would be necessary for those parish councillors present to elect a Chair for the meeting. Councillors present accepted and approved the Chairman's apologies and proceeded to elect a Chair for the meeting.

Cllr Caesar-Homden was elected by the councillors present to act as Chair for the meeting. Cllr Caesar-Homden assumed the role of Chair.

2.10 COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with S50-52 of LGA 2000 the following declarations were made and noted by the Council:

Cllrs Slowley; Needham; White; and Allison expressed their ongoing personal interest as members of the Parish Plan Steering Committee (PPSC) and resulting involvement in the Play Builder Scheme.

Cllr Caesar-Homden expressed her ongoing personal and prejudicial interest in item 107a and 107e as she was the SC Councillor for the area and therefore dual hatted.

Cllr Lycett expressed her ongoing personal interest and involvement in the Play Builder scheme.

Cllrs Slowley reported her ongoing personal interests as a School governor.

*The Chair opened the public session.*

3.10 PUBLIC FORUM :

Mr Slowley requested that the Parish Council look into the matter of dog fouling at the new Drs Meadow recreational ground. He also expressed his concern of dogs being off the leash in the area and an absence of dog fouling notices in the area. The Chair responded that due to Lottery Funding the site was required to be a "free flow area " and that measures had been taken by SC to employ more Dog Wardens who would patrol the site. The request for appropriate dog and litter waste receptacles on site and "Dog fouling is not permitted" notices on site would be addressed as the site was completed and made ready for public use.

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Mr White highlighted that some work had already commenced at Cliffe House, Big Walls, even though planning permission had not as yet been granted. Mr Davies added that he had not as a neighbour been formally notified of the planning application. The Chair reported that both issues would be made known to the Planning Committee when she spoke at the Committee meeting the next day. Other members of the public present expressed their concerns over the planning application and their disappointment in the SC Planning Officer's recommendation. The Chair confirmed that these were duly supported by the Parish Council who had repeatedly opposed the application however she reported that the "walls" although considered important by locals were not technically listed or recognised as an historic monument.

A member of the public raised her concerns over the water quality in the parish. It was agreed that this would be discussed as an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting.

Avril Sanders Royle asked whether co-option of a councillor was possible if the interested party was unable to attend the May meeting when the co-option was scheduled to take place. The Parish Council assured Avril Sanders Royle that co-option was possible in such circumstances provided the interested party(s) had formally expressed their reasons for being a parish councillor. The Clerk emphasised the need for all interested parties to have contacted her formally in writing by 17<sup>th</sup> May.

*The Chair resumed council business.*

- 4.10 CONFIRMATION & ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 29/3/10, were deemed to be accurate with the following correction:

Cllr J Hamlett requested that Min Ref 125.09 be amended as follows:

"concerns that due to an invasive hedge buses had been forced to mount the pavement on "~~Church Bank~~" be replaced with "Brownhill".

Having amended the minutes to the Council's satisfaction they were duly signed as correct by the Chair. The Chair then requested that Agenda item 5.10 (d) be brought forward so that a report could be provided by Dorothy Jones, members agreed to this.

5.10 LOCAL REPORTS

(d) Ruyton Drs Meadow Playbuilder Site – Dorothy Jones provided a summary report of the progress of the project and reiterated the need for patience while the site was prepared for its ROSPA Safety inspection on the 23/4/10. She responded to queries raised concerning the state of the turf and snagging issues. The Chair thanked her for attending and her report.

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(a) Ruyton Primary School, Safe to School Routes April Meeting – Cllr White reported that she was unable to give a report as the meeting as it was to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> April. This was noted by the Parish Council.

(b) Ruyton Parish Plan Steering Committee – Cllr Needham reported her concerns over the accuracy of the maps used by SC in the LDF Land Site Allocation Consultation. This was noted by the Parish Council and the Chair assured those present that this had been brought to the attention of SC Planning Team.

(c) Local Joint Committee (LJC) - Cllr Slowley reported that the next public meeting would be held at Ruyton Primary School and encouraged the participation of local people.

(e) Ruyton Sports Committee – At the request of the Chair Mr Simon Gittins provided an update in the absence of Cllr Brown. The Chair confirmed that should the SC actions to date be unsuccessful she would pursue the drainage issue with SC. On behalf of the Parish Council she thanked Mr S Gittins and Cllr Brown for their work in resolving the issue of poor drainage at the site.

(f) Nesscliffe Advisory Group – Cllr Slowley stated there was nothing to report.

(g) Elbridge Notice Board – Cllr Slowley reported that she awaited contact by the contractor. Clerk agreed to chase the situation as she had been advised that the notice board was complete and the contractor awaited instruction as to where to site the board. Cllr Lycett advised that Mrs Edge would probably be prepared to keep the board updated. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Mrs Edge on the matter.

6.10 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT – Cllr Caesar-Homden reported that she was unable to provide a report because of restrictions imposed as a result of the forthcoming general election.

7.10 S106 REPORT UP-DATE – Cllr Caesar-Homden reported that she would look into the matter of the S106s at SC.

8.10 NEW BUS SHELTER – Cllr Slowley reported on the renewed inspection of the site by the Chairman, Cllr Lycett and herself following the request that the shelter be of sufficient size to accommodate all school children. The outcome was that the shelter be 1.5 times the size of the Hassock (in length only) provided by Littlethorne. **It was agreed by Council that should this be within the PC budget of £1,500 and meet the approval of SC the placement of the order via SC should be actioned by the Clerk on the understanding that the PC were confident that the shelter would be properly positioned on site by SC.**

9.10 FINANCE – report by Clerk

(a) The asset inventory provided by the Clerk was considered by the Parish Council for insurance purposes and accounting purposes as required by audit regulations. (See Appendix A). Councillors were concerned that it inaccurately reflected the value and number of notice boards and public benches (which were owned by the PC)

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within the parish and agreed to provide an update to the Clerk by the 1<sup>st</sup> May, enabling her to renew the insurance.

(b) Payments requiring authorisation for payment were presented by the Clerk to the Parish Council as follows:

| Payee          | Description   | Chq No | £      |
|----------------|---|--------|--------|
| SALC           | SALC Affiliation fee                                  | 695    | 338.57 |
| SALC           | Training  | 695    | 20.00  |
| Mrs SD Hackett | Mileage, Postage, PC meetings, 1 journey to Shirehall | 694    | 39.80  |
| V&W            | St Light Repairs                                      | 696    | 70.53  |
| V&W            | St Light Repairs                                      | 697    | 437.24 |

**Councillors Lycett and Lewis were instructed by the Council to approve the cheques presented for payment ; however the Clerk was asked to postpone sending cheque 697 to V&W Electrics Ltd until Cllr Allison confirmed to her that the street lights in question had been repaired.** The Clerk also informed the Council that she was pursuing Scottish Power as advised by V&W on the matter of a refund to maintenance work arising from work carried out at the main pole outside the village hall. She also reported that a further light had been reported as faulty in Birch Close by a local resident and the matter was being looked in to by V&W. Councillors suggested that in order to reduce the costs of repair reported faults should not be immediately reported to V&W by the Clerk until 4-5 had arisen and they were reported as a job lot. The Parish Council agreed that until further notice the Clerk should report faults as they arose as the street lighting was considered important in the village.

c The Parish Council noted the year end 09/10 budget monitoring report as circulated by the Clerk. Appendix C. The Clerk confirmed that Parish Council's accounts had been finalised upon receipt of the year end bank statement and the accounts and associated paperwork had been taken to the Internal Auditor. She was confident that a report would be made available at the PC's May meeting, enabling the PC to confidently approve S2 of the Annual Return. S1 & S2 of the Annual Return were distributed by the Clerk to councillors present in preparation for the next meeting.

d Cllr Lycett confirmed that she had independently checked the Annual Receipts & Payments Account castings and agreed the bank reconciliation to date for 2009/10 accounts, having initialled/signed both the bank statement, accounting records and reconciliation. This was noted by the Council.

#### 10.10 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- Traffic management proposals and the invasive hedges on Brownhill. The Chairman's report was unavailable, the matter was therefore deferred to the next meeting.

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- The Shrewsbury North West Relief Road – Public Consultation 13/4 – 14/5/10. Exhibition to take place at Perry Hall Ruyton XI Towns 29/4/10 between 2.00 - 8.00pm. This was noted by the Parish Council.
- Cllr Lycett brought to the Council's attention the issue of HGV traffic blocking lanes in Elbridge and Mrs Edge's letter to the Council which was in effect a petition from local residents.

The Parish Council expressed their concern over the matter and agreed that a letter should be written by the Clerk to Suckleys about the matter, requesting an explanation. Whilst the Chair informed those present that she had already informed Shropshire Council officers of the remaining issues such as the need for a grit bin, road maintenance issues and possible need for a road sign stating HGVs not suitable. The Clerk was instructed to reply to Mrs Edge; providing her with an update and explaining that the maintenance of hedges was not a Parish or Principal Authority responsibility.

11.10 THE CLIFFE - Nothing to report.

### 12.10 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS

- a) Local Development Framework Consultation & Site Allocations and Management Development – The Clerk having provided hard copy booklets depicting possible development areas to councillors and those present advised that these can be downloaded from SC web site. Councillors agreed to discuss their response to the consultation at their May meeting.
- b) SC Rural Engagement Event – The Clerk informed the Parish Council that this was likely to take place in late July or August. The date and venue had yet to be confirmed.
- c) SC Oswestry Local Needs Affordable Housing Project – The Clerk informed the Parish Council of correspondence received from Claire Hughes concerning the presentation. The Clerk had requested that this be given at the PC's July meeting or as part of the Rural Engagement Event. This was agreed by the Parish Council.

### 13.10 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) The Clerk reported that no new planning applications have been notified to the Parish Council. However the planning application amendment to Cliffe House Big Walls Plan Ref 09/02729/OUT was being heard by the Planning Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> April. **Cllr Slowley stated that with the Council's permission she would speak at the meeting on behalf of the PC stating the PC's objections to the application. This was agreed and approved of by the Parish Council.**

Cllr Caesar-Homden stated that she would also be speaking at the meeting on behalf of residents in the village.

- b) The Clerk reported that no new planning applications directly relating to the parish had been decided by Shropshire Council (SC).

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c) Severn Trent Plant - Ruyton XI Towns. Cllr Lycett reported that she had visited the site and was concerned that the site was not appropriately screened in harmony with its surrounding landscape. The PC agreed following an examination of photos taken of the site that the Clerk should follow this up with SC Planning Team and discover whether all conditions of the original planning application had been met.

d) Penton's S106 Update – The Clerk confirmed that as yet no response has been received from SC Planning regarding the PC's request that village hall facilities should be taken into account. The Chair agreed to follow this up at SC.

14.10 COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED – Noted by the Council see Clerk's report at Appendix B.

15.10 REQUEST BY PC FOR ALLOTMENT GROUND IN PARISH – The Clerk stated that no positive response had been received from the landowners contacted to date with the exception of SC who were looking in to the matter. The Chair reported that SC would initially be writing to nearby local residents who would be affected by the proposal to gauge their response to the introduction of allotments. She agreed to update the PC on SC progress.

16.10 EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION WITHIN THE PC & BY THE PC TO THE PARISH/COMMUNITY – Cllr Caesar-Homden stated that she was concerned that the PC was not using all available notice boards within the parish to communicate parish meeting notices and agendas. Following discussion it was agreed that all 3 notice boards within the village should be kept updated by local councillors and that the Elbridge notice board would be kept updated by Mrs Edge provided she was in agreement and that the Cliffe notice board would be maintained by Cllr Lewis.

17.10 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – The Clerk reported that the draft minutes were not as yet available and advised that they would be available for the next PC meeting.

**18 .10 SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

1. Cllr Lewis reported that a road sign at Five Ways was missing and needed to be replaced depicting "Little Ness Road". Clerk instructed to arrange for its replacement with SC.
2. The rescheduled July meeting date of 19<sup>th</sup> July was noted by all councillors present.

The Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9.35pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council was noted as being scheduled to take place on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall, Ruyton XI Towns.

Confirmed as accurate..... .PP.Colin Case.....Date...24-5-10.....