

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

JANUARY 2011

A meeting of the full council was held at 7.30 p.m. on 4th January 2011 at The Memorial Hall, Ruyton XI towns.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Mr T. Allison; Mr C. Brown; Mr C. Case (Chairman); Mr S. Gittins; Mr M. Lewis; Mrs M. Lycett; Mrs D. Needham; Mrs R. Slowley (Vice-Chair).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: SC Cllr A. Caesar-Homden; Sue Hackett – Clerk; 5 members of the public which included 3 parish councillor applicants.

120.10 INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN & APPOLOGIES - The Chairman opened the meeting and explained that the format of the meeting would by agreement include bringing forward agenda item 127.10 as Cllr Caesar-Homden had another meeting to attend. He reported the absence and apologies of Cllr A White due to holiday commitments. **This was unanimously accepted and approved by the Council.**

121.10 PUBLIC SESSION – No issues were raised by the public present.

122.10 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; Allison, Case and White; expressed their ongoing personal interest as members of the Parish Plan Steering Committee (PPSC).
- Cllr Case reported his ongoing personal interest as a member of the Village Hall Committee at Min 130.10 d.
- Cllr D Needham expressed her personal and prejudicial interest with regard to Min 123.10 and Ms Jefferies application as they shared the same dwelling.

123.10 CO-OPTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR – A presentation was given by each of the 3 applicants present (Ms L Jefferies; Mr A Johnston and Mr R Edwards) on the reasons why they wished to be a parish councillor.

Cllr Needham then left the room.

The Chairman asked for each parish councillor to vote on their preferred candidate:

Mr N Leadbeater (NL); Ms L Jefferies (LJ); Mr R Edwards (RE); and Mr A Johnston (AJ). The Clerk collected the votes (7) and the Chairman announced that the majority votes had been for RE and AJ.

Cllr Needham returned to the meeting.

The Chairman announced that a second vote would take place and asked each councillor to vote on the preferred candidate from RE and AJ. The Clerk collected the votes (8) and announced that AJ had won the majority of votes. **The Council resolved without dissent that Andrew Johnston be co opted as a parish councillor. Cllr Johnston accepted the position and joined the Council.**

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127.10 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL (SC) REPORT – By Cllr Caesar-Homden

Cllr Caesar-Homden summarised:

- SC winter maintenance programme and assured the PC that present salt stocks were plentiful.
- The SC new parking fee policy recently approved by Cabinet.
- Changes made to SC LJs to reduce costs.
- The SC Transport Consultation currently taking place.

Cllr Caesar-Homden also reported that £76M of savings had to be made by the Authority over the next 4 years and £19M in 2011/12. She reported that the Authority was keen for parish and town councils and the voluntary sector to take on the responsibility of services where appropriate to minimise operation costs and achieve savings. This was noted by the PC.

124.10 CONFIRMATION & ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Draft minutes of the PC meetings held on 1/11/10, & 15/11/10 which had been circulated to members were confirmed by the Council as accurate and the Chairman was instructed to sign them as accurate.

125.10 PLANNING MATTERS

- a. Planning applications as notified to the Parish Council, as shown at Appendix A were discussed. **The Council resolved without dissent that the PC would make no comments.**
- b. The Clerk reported on planning application decisions notified to the PC. See Appendix A. The Council requested that the Clerk should inform the SC Development Control Manager Ian Kilby of the delays which were being experienced in the Oswestry Area and ask for explanations for these delays.
- c. Severn Trent Plant - Ruyton XI Towns. Cllr Gittins feedback on a recent consultation meeting held with the company's land agent who had agreed that the plant did not comply with the design and access statement originally submitted at the planning application stage. The agent is to respond to Cllr Gittins in the next week or so.

126.10 CONSULTATIONS:

- a. **Parish Plan Supplementary Report; circulated by email 2/12/10 to all councillors was considered and unanimously adopted by the Parish Council as written as part of the Parish Plan.** (See Appendix B.) Proposed RS; Seconded ML.
- b. SC Draft Supplementary Planning Document SPD on the Type & Affordability of Housing – circulated 9/12/10. **The PC agreed unanimously to defer the matter to the February meeting.** Proposed CC; Seconded RS.

127.10 See above.

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128.10 LOCAL REPORTS

- (a) Ruyton Primary School – Cllr Slowley reported that the new pre-school building was under construction and Cllr Allison reported that an objection had been received from a local resident regarding the rerouting of the right of way.
- (b) Local Joint Committee (LJC) - Cllr Slowley expressed her disappointment in not having been informed or consulted on the changes to the LJCs as a delegate. The date of the next meeting was confirmed.
- (c) Ruyton Sports Committee – Cllr Brown reported that the drainage project was on going and that equipment needs were being facilitated.
- (d) Nesscliffe Advisory Group – Cllr Slowley provided a summary report see Appendix C.
- (e) Other – None noted.

129.10 VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS & ST FURNITURE – The Chairman reported on action taken in respect of a dangerous lamp post and procurement of a litter bin (foc) for The Five Ways. It had been established that the churchyard did not require a bin. **The Council resolved in retrospect and without dissent that action taken by the Clerk to make safe the dangerous lamp post and order a replacement lamp post were approved.** (Quoted costs expected to be £800 in total.)
The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to the Council's insurers who had confirmed that a £250 excess applied and that non VATable costs applied only. Several problems with lamp lights and dog fouling issues were reported by various councillors. Cllr Gittins stated that Scottish Power had now confirmed that they would be dealing with a local over grown hedge which was obstructing power lines.

130.10 FINANCE

- a. Banking Arrangements – The Chairman summarised the Clerk's report which recommended to Council changes to banking arrangements. (See Appendix H). **The Council resolved without dissent that a Co-operative Bank account should be established in the PC's name.** (Proposed RS; Seconded ML.)
- b. **The Council resolved without dissent that a Co-operative Bank account should have 4 authorising signatories and that these should be Cllr Case; Cllr Slowley; Cllr Lycett and Cllr Lewis and that the Clerk should be established with Administrator rights on the account.** (Proposed CB; Seconded TA.)
- c. **The Council resolved without dissent that the annual precept of £15,141, and budget of £16,850 for 2011-12 as shown at Appendix D be agreed and approved by Council.** (Proposed CC; Seconded SG.)
- d. The Clerk presented invoices etc. which required authorisation by the PC for payment; see Appendix E. **This included a \$137 grant request from the Village Hall Committee. Following some discussion the Council agreed that a grant of £150.00 be approved as no further funding remained in the 2010-11 Budget.** (Proposed RS; Seconded SG.)

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The Council resolved without dissent that Cllrs Lycett and Lewis sign the prepared cheques after having checked them to the supporting paperwork.

- e. The PC considered the effectiveness of internal audit and scope of the internal audit plan for 2010-11. **The Council resolved without dissent that the audit plan be extended to include a review of the transfer to the new Co-Operative Bank account.** (See Audit Plan 2010-11 Appendix F). **It was also agreed that Bernard Townson should be reappointed as internal auditor and that the Audit Plan be sent to him.** (Proposed ML; Seconded SG.)
- f. Cllr Lycett confirmed the accuracy of the Clerk's bank reconciliation and accuracy of finance spreadsheet as at 4/1/11 and signed the reconciliation.
- 131.10 LOCAL POLICE REPORT- There was none; however it was agreed that due to problems of anti-social behaviour recently experienced at weekends the Chairman would request that there was an increased police presence during these times. He also encouraged councillors and the public to report such incidents directly to the police.
- 132.10 CLERK'S REPORT & COMMUNICATION – See Appendix H. Arising from the report it was unanimously agreed by the Council that:
- Cllr Gittins and Johnston would benefit from the new councillor training scheduled for March.
 - The Clerk would benefit from attending the Finance Training scheduled.
 - Cllrs Allison and Needham would confer and attend the Transport Consultation event at Oswestry and respond on behalf of the PC.
 - Cllrs Slowley and Needham would examine the PCT Consultation documents and respond on behalf of the PC.
 - The Clerk would respond to SC that the Council did not support the use of lamp posts for advertising. (Proposed CC; Seconded RS.)
 - The Chairman and Vice Chair would be carrying out the Clerk's appraisal.
- 132.10 SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA – URGENT ITEMS
- The Clerk requested that the Council reconsider signing up to the SC Charter. **It was unanimously agreed by Council that this should be deferred to the next meeting.** (Proposed CC; Seconded RS.)
 - The Clerk redistributed the 2011 Council Meeting Calendar and confirmed that the June meeting was to be held on Monday 6th.

The Chairman thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting at 9.35 p.m. he stated that the next council meeting was to be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 7th February 2011 at the Memorial Hall Ruyton XI Towns.

Confirmed as accurate.....Date.....